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Assad supports PLO: Arafat

By Lima Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT, June 6: Syria backs the political initiative launched by the PLO. President of Palestine Yasser Arafat said here today at a news conference.

He added Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has dropped all reservations against PLO's peace initiative.

On reconciliation with Syria and whether it would reflect on other Palestinian factions in Syria, Arafat said that the PLO has an open door policy for everyone who abides by the Palestinian charter and the PLO.

Arafat said until now three meetings have been held with Syria as a result of Algerian effort to mediate to bring about a reconciliation. He commented that he hoped to follow up these contacts.

Replying to a question on whether a US proposal for a solution to the Palestinian issue suggested granting the Palestinians an entity in the West Bank and Gaza and then a confederation with Jordan and whether the PLO received any such proposal, Arafat said: "We are not less than Namibia. Let them treat us like the Namibians and we will accept."

Kuwait's stand backing the Palestinian nation and the PLO in their legitimate struggle with Israel was praised by Arafat.

In his first address in Kuwait since the PLO elected him President of Palestine, Arafat stressed the PLO's steadfast support of the intifada until Palestinians regain their occupied lands.

Commenting on US-PLO talks and American Secretary of State James Baker's recent statement about the legitimate rights of Palestinians, Arafat said that he would like to point out the difference between what Baker and Bush said.

Arafat added: "Bush said end the Israeli occupation and legitimise the political rights of the Palestinians while Baker said Israel should abandon its dream of great Israel." He added that this is a very positive stand, although neither Bush nor Baker mentioned the Palestinian state.

"All of us know that the right of state is not a gift to be given, but a right to be taken," Arafat said.

The Palestinian President said that such talks are a good form of transition and on his part Arafat asked the American administration to deal evenly with both parties.

Regarding the situation in the Gulf after the post-Khomeini era, Arafat preferred not to discuss the issue at this point in time, but, he said that he hoped Iranian brothers would overcome any obstacles that might arise after the death of Khomeini. He also expressed the hope that Iranians would continue their search as brothers in Islam and neighbours of the Arab nation.

On his reaction to reconciliation that took place during the Morocco summit and Egypt's turn to the Arab fold, he said: "I am pleased by this return and vindicates my stand taken during my visit to Egypt."

Commenting on the question of Arabs and PLO were not giving serious attention to the intifada in the occupied lands, Arafat said: "No one can accuse a PLO of not taking care of the intifada just as no one can accuse a parent of not taking care of his child."

"Intifada is an integral part of the PLO and hence cannot be separated from the PLO."

Replying to a question if the PLO was in a strong position to negotiate with Washington prior to the intifada, Arafat said that the PLO was in a strong position of meetings had taken place.

omb hoax

JRO, June 6, (KUNA): Kuwait Airways office here today said they received a call that a bomb was planted in one of aircraft leaving for Kuwait.

A reliable source at the office of KUNA that Egyptian security authorities thoroughly searched the plane but nothing was found.

The source said the plane was due to fly to Kuwait after security checks were made.



Sheikh Ali: firm

OPEC haunted by fear of new price war

VIENNA, June 6, (Agencies): A stalemate persisted today at OPEC talks in Vienna over a Kuwaiti demand for a bigger share of the oil market, but delegates said fear of a new price war may yet stampede the organisation into a deal.

Ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries

are trying to set new output quotas.

If they can't agree, there could be a free-for-all and a glut like one last autumn that saw prices near \$10 a barrel, compared with an 18 to 20 range now which has been achieved largely through better OPEC supply discipline.

Tomorrow, the day after tomorrow at the latest," said Iraqi Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi.

But Kuwait's Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa told reporters there was no change in his position.

Conference sources say he wants a Kuwaiti quota of 1.35 million barrels daily. That is a

third more than at present and much more than he could get within a proposed limit of 20 million for total OPEC volume unless others among the 13 members conceded percentage market share.

The United Arab Emirates, also wants a bigger-than-percentage quota rise and is exceeding

its present mandatory output limit.

Sheikh Ali told his counterparts that Kuwait was bringing new production facilities on line and had to meet demand on the part of traditional clients.

Libya for its part said it wanted equal treatment with Kuwait. Over the weekend a com-

promise package giving these two a bit extra was painstakingly cobbled together by OPEC's "wise men" — mediators Rilwanu Lukman of Nigeria who is the OPEC president, secretary-general Subroto of Indonesia and ministers Ginandjar Kar-

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 7)

Situation grave as revolt spreads

Rival army factions fight it out in Beijing

France freezes ties: UK bans arms sales

BEIJING, June 6, (Agencies): Rival Army units exchanged artillery and automatic weapons fire in western Beijing today, Chinese sources said, while civilians fought scattered clashes with troops trying to enforce martial law.

A column of six main battle tanks, 49 trucks and seven armoured personnel carriers moved east along central Chang'an Avenue, firing over the heads of civilians to clear the streets. Their destination was unknown.

Minutes before the column passed over a nearby highway overpass,

demonstrators in the street below hurled at least two gasoline bombs at one of the 20 tanks that had been deployed there for more than 24 hours. Sparks flew from the rear of the lead tank in the column moving fast.

Troops stationed alongside the tanks fired machine-gun bursts but it was not known if they hit any protesters.

The military warned journalists they would be shot for photographing Army units on city streets, while increasing numbers of foreigners jammed the airport to flee Beijing.

Protesters threw rocks at military jeeps and burned buses in parts of the capital, but the turmoil quietened somewhat after two days of fighting between soldiers and civilians following the brutal military

suppression late Saturday and Sunday of the student-led democracy movement.

Fears rose of a civil war as citizens urged "friendly" troops to kill soldiers responsible for a military crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators.

The city has been under martial law since May 20, enforced since Saturday night by tens of thousands of troops who stormed the city centre and cleared protesting students from central Tiananmen Square.

In the first appearance by a senior official since the violence, state council spokesman Yuan Mu said at a news conference for Chinese reporters that 300 soldiers and residents and only 23 students had been killed.

In the first detailed official casualty figures, Yuan said 5,000 soldiers and 2,000 residents were wounded and that 400 soldiers were missing.

The count was substantially lower than reports from hospitals and witnesses. A Chinese Red Cross official has put the number of dead in the thousands.

Troops and tanks from at least four Army groups stood guard at blockades on major roadways in Beijing, allowing what little civilian traffic remained on the streets to pass after thorough searches.

The troops took up apparently defensive positions on access roads around the government headquarters in the city centre.

Army units fired artillery during the afternoon in southern Beijing and battles erupted around the Army's martial law headquarters and near a military museum on the city's west, Chinese and foreign witnesses said.

Chinese residents in the areas claimed units of the 27th Army, based east of Beijing, were clashing with units of the 28th Army, based in Datong to the northwest. Western and Asian diplomats said they could not confirm the accounts.

Other Chinese said elements of the 38th Army, which earlier balked at orders to enforce martial law to end student-led pro-democracy demonstrations, were moving in to confront the 27th.

Diplomats believe military units loyal to Chinese leadership factions are engaged in shows of force linked to a power struggle touched off by weeks of mass demonstrations for greater political freedom and the decision to crush it last weekend.

(Continued on Page 9)

Khomeini buried in emotional frenzy

TEHRAN, June 6, (Agencies): Ayatollah Khomeini was buried today after his body was recovered from hysterical mourners who grabbed the open wooden coffin and ripped the shroud to pieces in a frenzied display of grief.

Khomeini was buried in a second attempt after his body had to be whisked away in a helicopter from about 10 million mourners.

As thousands of Revolutionary Guards and civilians jostled around the grave at the Bahesht Zahra cemetery, sending up clouds of dust, Khomeini's body was finally laid to rest at 4:38 pm (1308 GMT).

A television announcer, his voice hoarse with emotion, chanted "Father, don't leave your children. O father don't leave your beloved" as the crowd surged toward the grave, weeping and beating their heads and chests with clenched fists in the Shiite Muslim expression of bereavement.

Soldiers passed concrete slabs over the heads of mourners and laid them across the grave, a shallow hole in the ground in a 100-square-metre plot cordoned off in the vase cemetery where fighters who died in the Islamic revolution and the eight-year war with Iraq are buried.

A crane lowered a metal freight container on top to prevent people from grabbing handfuls of dust from the grave and possibly unearthing the body.

Guns roared a last salute to the 86-year-old revolutionary leader who toppled Iran's 2,500-year-old monarch and transformed the country into a militant Islamic state.

The mourners earlier had blocked the path of a van driving Khomeini's body to the cemetery, 35 kilometres (22 miles) south of Mosalla Square.

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)



An Iranian mourner is carried away from the burial site. (Reuters wirephoto)

IRA bombs £60m complex

BELFAST, June 6, (UPI): A £60 million (\$96 million) shop and office complex that is under construction was extensively damaged today by a bomb claimed to be planted by the outlawed Irish Republican Army.

Police said several people were injured as the bomb rocked the centre of the city while officers were evacuating hundreds of shoppers from the area.

A warning was received about 20 minutes before the explosion. "It's a miracle that nobody died," a police spokesman said.

The blast, which was heard 10 miles away, had been packed into a hijacked van that was driven into the complex by a lone gunman, police said.

50 N-weapons on ocean floor

WASHINGTON, June 6, (AP): US and Soviet naval accidents have littered the ocean floor with at least 50 nuclear weapons and 10 nuclear reactors since World War II, according to a report released today by the Greenpeace environmental group.

Forty-three of the 50 weapons and six of the nine reactors are Soviet, and the real number may be much higher because so few

details are known of secretive Soviet Navy operations, said William Arkin, an analyst who worked with Greenpeace on the project.

"We got no information at all from the Soviets," said Arkin, who works at the Institute for Policy Studies, a liberal Washington interest group. "We were totally unsuccessful."



President Bush points the way to Benazir before talks. (See Page 2).



AIDS sufferer

AIDS sufferer John plants a kiss on his foster mother Barbara Chamness during the fifth international conference on AIDS in Montreal on Monday. The 16-month-old boy was born a coke addict and abandoned in Atlanta, then developed AIDS. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviet ethnic riot toll 50

All over price of strawberries

MOSCOW, June 6, (AP): An argument over the price of strawberries fanned ethnic tensions and sparked arson and other attacks that killed 50 people in Soviet Uzbekistan, the republic's Communist Party chief said today.

Rafik Nishanov, the party first secretary in the Central Asian republic, said the weekend rampage in the Fergana valley, 2,500 kilometres (1,500 miles) south-east of Moscow, created an "uncontrolled situation." But he said order had been restored.

A newspaper said nearly 200 people were injured, and more than 7,000 Interior Ministry troops were called in to quell the arson and brawling. A curfew

was imposed. The violence involved members of the Uzbek majority, Tadzhiks and Kirghizians against the ethnic Turkish minority, according to official and unofficial sources.

Nishanov told the Soviet of Nationalities, one of two chambers of a new Supreme Soviet legislature, that the Turk-Meskhetis minority had been living contently "with jobs and attention" for decades in Uzbekistan.

"Everything was going fine," he told the chamber, which is charged with making laws affecting the Soviet Union's more than 100 nationalities.

Then, the 63-year-old Nishanov said, the Turk-Meskhetis began demanding permission to return to their homeland, which is in southern Soviet Georgia. Dictator Josef Stalin had deported the ethnic minority to Central Asia during World War II.

The Uzbek party chief said tensions flared when a customer at a farmer's market in the Fergana valley protested that the price of strawberries offered by one salesman was too high. A group of young Turk-Meskhetis then attacked Uzbekis, and one was killed. Nishanov did not say when the incident occurred, but

other sources said it was around May 26.

Over the weekend, he said, groups of young people, some of whom were drunk or on drugs, set fire to homes of Turk-Meskhetis and launched other attacks leading to "tragic consequences." He said about 50 people were killed, but listed only 47 — 35 Turk-Meskhetis, 10 Uzbekis, one Tadzhik and one Russian.

DAY BY DAY

INCREASING the income of the retired Kuwaiti employees through social allowances or children's allowances or even by increasing the pension itself is done through the Ministry of Finance or through government policy — not through the Public Institution for Social Security.

We want the institution's Director-General, Fahed Al Rajaan, to use his good offices in bringing justice to this section of the citizens. These citizens have no income other than their pensions.

Zahed Matar

Five killed by Sikhs in Punjab

NEW DELHI, June 6, (Reuters): Five people were killed today in fresh Sikh violence in India's Punjab state.

Sikh radicals hijacked a bus in Punjab, shooting two passengers dead and seriously injuring two others, while three people were killed when they shot up a public transport van, Indian news agency reports said.

The latest bloodshed brought this week's death toll to 10. Five people died in violent incidents yesterday in Punjab.

Today prayer services were held in the Golden Temple in Amritsar marking the fifth anniversary of the storming of the holiest Sikh shrine by Indian troops to flush out extremists, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

Despite the fresh violence Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi told migrants from Punjab that normalcy would return to the area.

India 'rules out' pullout

NEW DELHI, June 6, (Reuters): India today virtually ruled out an early withdrawal of its 45,000-strong peacekeeping force in Sri Lanka.

A special envoy of Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa delivered a request for an early withdrawal of the troops in talks with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi yesterday.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said the forces, sent to Sri Lanka under a 1987 accord between two countries to put down a Tamil separatist uprising, would be pulled out only if certain conditions were met.

"It was agreed consultations will continue so that conditions can be created as envisaged in the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement to facilitate withdrawal," he said.

The conditions include a satisfactory devolution of powers from Colombo to an elected provincial council in the Tamil-dominated areas.

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo
KD 250 must be won

LAST date for sending entries is June 10 and numbers will be drawn from June 12.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Visit cancelled

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe has cancelled a trip to Czechoslovakia next month because of Prague's ill-fated expulsion of four Britons, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

A spokesman said Czechoslovak ambassador Jan Fidler was summoned and told the expulsions of three British diplomats and a businessman announced on May 30 were "unwarranted retaliation against measures taken solely to protect UK security."

Students win asylum

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, June 6, (Reuters): Two Moscow journalism students have won asylum in the United States after crossing the ice from Siberia to Alaska with a dog-sled expedition, one of them said yesterday.

Anatoly Tkachenko, 24, who defected on Alaska's Little Diomed Island in April with Alexander Gorkin, 25, said US immigration officers had given them both asylum and work papers.

Ariane-4 launched

KOUROU, French Guiana, June 6, (Reuters): Western Europe's biggest and heaviest space rocket, a 500-tonne Ariane-4 carrying two satellites, was launched yesterday after a five-week delay.

The 58-metre (180-feet) high launcher streaked into the night sky from the European Space Agency's base in French Guiana, on the northeastern tip of South America, at 0738 (2238 GMT).

Order scrapped

NAIROBI, June 6, (Reuters): President Daniel Arap Moi has scrapped an order banning Kenya's casinos from accepting bets in local currency, casino operators said today.

Moi told a political rally yesterday he would let casinos operate as before. The operators said they had been informed this morning a March directive limiting them to doing business only in foreign currency had been withdrawn.

Hospital fire

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, June 6, (AP): A fire engulfed one of the capital's public hospitals, destroying most of its facilities and killing four people, including a baby in an incubator, a radio station reported yesterday.

The independent radio station Haiti-Inter said the fire broke out at 3 am Sunday at hospital De L'Asile in downtown Port-au-Prince and destroyed two operating rooms, the maternity ward, the pharmacy, laboratory and administrative offices.

Ferry overturns

BOGOTA, Colombia, June 6, (AP): A flatbed river ferry overcrowded with celebrants from a tropical gold-mining community's beauty queen contest overturned and sank near the Pacific coast yesterday. Radio reports said eight people drowned and 21 were missing.

Nurse sentenced

KOMOTINI, Greece, June 6, (AP): An Italian woman was sentenced today to eight years in prison for smuggling heroin and hashish into Greece from Turkey last year, worth about \$4-million.

The woman, identified as Maria Guidoni, 39, from Scafati, Italy, was arrested last December when Greek border guards found two kilograms (4.4 pounds) of heroin and 12 kilograms (26.4 pounds) of hashish hidden in secret compartments of her car.

Rebels kill 18

MAPUTO, Mozambique, June 6, (AP): Anti-government rebels killed at least 18 civilians in two recent attacks near the capital, the national news agency AIM reported yesterday.

Ten people were killed June 1 when guerrillas of the Mozambique National Resistance raided the town of Bela Vista, about 30 kms (18 miles) south of Maputo, AIM reported.

Pilot fatigue

LAS VEGAS, June 6, (AP): Pilot fatigue and disorientation may have been a factor in fatal crashes of two secret Stealth fighters in California and Nevada, according to heavily censored Air Force accident reports.

The 1986 and 1987 crashes involved aircraft stationed at Nellis Air Force base north of Las Vegas.

Nuclear tests

PARIS, June 6, (Reuters): France will reduce its nuclear tests in the south Pacific from eight a year to six starting in 1990, Prime Minister Michel Rocard said today.

The decision, taken as part of general cuts in defence spending, is likely to be welcomed by Australia, New Zealand and other Pacific states which want French tests on the Mururoa Atoll stopped entirely.

F-16 explodes

BODOE, Norway, June 6, (Reuters): A Norwegian F-16 jet fighter exploded today during a ground test of its motor, a defence command spokesman said.

He said no one was hurt and the cause of the accident was not known.

Benazir challenges Pakistan's drug mafia

ISLAMABAD, June 6, (Reuters): Pakistan's drug problem has grown as fast as the marijuana that flourishes in its capital.

The drug issue has long been a major irritant in Pakistan-US relations and will be high on the agenda during Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's visit to the United States this week.

But those responsible for the problem face the strongest challenge to date from Benazir's six-month-old government.

Pakistan is cursed with a perfect climate for drugs. Marijuana grows

wild in the countryside and profusely even along the tree-lined avenues of the capital Islamabad.

The mountains along the Afghan border provide ideal growing conditions for the poppies which yield opium, from which heroin is derived.

Spurred on by the fantastically high street price of heroin in the West, syndicates dealing in millions of dollars have sprung up over the past decade.

Pakistan soon became a major source for heroin smuggled to the United States and other Western nations and developed a large addict

population of its own.

Benazir promised to wage war on drug barons when she took office in December — a campaign which has taken a higher profile in the run-up to her five-day US visit.

She blamed the problem on the 11-year rule of her predecessor, military President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq. During that time, she said, the "big fish" had escaped the law.

"In most cases in the past only drug carriers and small operators were arrested in Pakistan," Justice Minister Ifkhar Hussain Gilani said. "The big

operators either escaped or evidence against them was difficult to collect for making out a case for conviction."

Drug officials say the big operators used their powerful political connections to escape prosecution.

Benazir said this must stop. "Drug pedlars and barons will be shown no mercy, no matter how powerful and influential they may be," she said in a recent speech. "Pakistan will no longer be a haven for drug pushers and narcotics barons."

The linchpin of her drive is the government's new narcotics control

division, which will co-ordinate several existing agencies and recruit and elite force of its own.

For the first time a minister of state for narcotics control has been appointed. His staff are drafting a law to allow the confiscation of drug dealers' property. The government is also considering making the maximum penalty for trafficking death instead of life imprisonment — currently 25 years in effect.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan told an Islamic conference on combating drugs and alcohol that the government

had seized 6.2 tonnes of heroin and 3.6 tonnes of opium in 1988.

But the narcotics officials' task is far from easy. The drug mafias are formed around family structures making them extremely difficult to penetrate.

The enormous sums the traffickers have at their disposal dwarf the inadequate salaries of police and narcotics men. Bribery is hard to resist.

The campaign has already run into political difficulties. Pakistan's most populous province, Punjab, is run by former proteges of Zia, bitterly opposed to Benazir.



Soviet doctors treat a man suffering from serious burns. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gas blast heard far away

Soviet victims reduced to ashes

MOSCOW, June 6, (Agencies): A shortage of doctors experienced in treating burns had complicated efforts to help victims of a gas explosion that blew apart two Trans-Siberian railroad trains and burned many victims beyond recognition, newspapers said today.

Officials have confirmed 190 deaths from the Sunday morning blast but said the final death toll could pass 500. But doctors fear an eventual death toll of 800. Many of the victims were children on the way to summer camp, they said.

The two parked trains carrying 1,200 passengers were engulfed by a wall of fire after a cloud of leaked gas was ignited by a spark from the overhead electric line, the official news agency Tass reported.

The accident occurred after a liquefied petroleum gas pipeline burst between the Central Asian city of Ufa and the town of Asha,

750 miles (1,200 kilometres) southeast of Moscow.

Official reports said 763 people were hospitalised.

Health Minister Yevgeny Ghazov told the government newspaper Izvestia in an interview. The worst is yet to come for many victims. "For patients with such injuries, the third and fourth days are the most critical," he said.

The Communist Party daily Pravda reported the fire inferno burned many people so severely that "in some cases, nothing is left but ashes."

The newspaper Socialisticheskaya Industriya said 5,000 cubic metres (176,572 cubic feet) of gas had accumulated on the ground and exploded in a remote valley where the trains — travelling in opposite directions — had made unscheduled stops.

Pravda said the explosion was heard 26 kilometres (16 miles) away.

Gen. Mikhail Moiseyev, the military Chief of Staff, told Tass the blast had a force of a 10-kiloton bomb and hurled two locomotives and 38 passenger cars from the rails.

Till today, more than 250 passengers were unaccounted for, the news agency reported. Rescuers searched the burned-out hulks of the cars for more victims and military helicopters continued to evacuate victims, defence officials said.

Special receiving centres were set up in Ufa and Chelyabinsk for the relatives of those killed or missing in the accident, Tass said.

Army officer Valery Chernykh, a passenger, said he smelled gasoline in the air as he was preparing for bed and suddenly there were two explosions.

"I sensed that something must be wrong but before I could do anything there was a glow and then a thundering explosion."

Landslide buries Lanka village

KEGALLE, Sri Lanka, June 6, (Agencies): The Sri Lankan village of Bambaragala was swept away by tonnes of black boulders and red clay during floods that have killed more than 310 people on the Indian Ocean island.

After two days of torrential rain, the boulders and clay roared down a mountain and obliterated the village, killing 25 men, women and children.

"On Sunday afternoon I heard what I thought was the roar of a jet engine. Then suddenly the mountain started falling down. The people were screaming, crying and running away," said local official Ebert Wickremasinghe.

The village in southwestern Kegalle district was just one of many affected by the worst floods in Sri Lanka for 40 years.

Officials say more than 310 people have been killed, at least 100,000 injured and more than 200,000 made homeless in the southwestern and central mountain areas.

Today, Bambaragala where 15 houses once stood, looked as if it had been flattened by bulldozers. A stream near the village had altered its course around the landslide.

"With the help of volunteers we dug out 25 bodies, including 15 women and children," Wickremasinghe said.

Jayantha Lakshman, an unemployed youth of the village, said he ran away when he saw the mountain moving. When he returned the next morning he and several others dug out a 12-year-old boy.

"The child was alive. He spoke a few words and then breathed his last," said Lakshman.

About 300 survivors are now housed in a small village school. Soldiers and civilians battled through mud and flood waters today to reach cut-off areas, officials said.

As 19 Navy boats and four Air Force helicopters ferried food and medicine along the coast and inland, the Army tried to punch through muddy mounds of earth blocking roads to the worst-hit areas.

Soldiers were using bulldozers in an effort to open the road to Bulathipitiya, which was in a valley of coconut and rubber plantations.

The Sri Lankan capital Colombo is now threatened and officials there said the Kelani River in the city had risen 10 inches (25 cm) above the recognised "major flood level" of eight feet (2.5 metres).

Storm Dot hits central Philippines

MANILA, June 6, (AP): Tropical storm Dot hit the central Philippines today with heavy rains and winds of 75 kilometres (47 miles) per hour, officials said. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

At 5 pm (0900 GMT), Dot was located over the Visayan Sea, about 450 kilometres (280 miles) southeast of Manila, the Manila Weather Bureau said. The storm was expected to hit the central island of Masbate late today.

Chief weather forecaster Eduardo Parang said the storm came ashore at the southern tip of Samar island, about 650 kilometres (410 miles) southeast of Manila. The storm was moving west-northwest at 22 kilometres (14 miles) per hour, he said.

Dot, the third storm to hit the Philippines this year, dumped rain over a wide area stretching from Bataan province west of Manila across Manila Bay to northern Mindanao.

A Philippines Coast Guard spokesman said six passenger ships were not allowed to leave the port of Manila for destinations in the affected areas. Lt. Francisco Mendoza said similar orders were issued to other ports but the number of ships ordered anchored was unavailable.

Philippine Air Lines cancelled 20 domestic flights today, but international flights remained normal, a spokesman said.

Benazir discusses Afghan issue in US

Premier meets Bush

WASHINGTON, June 6, (AP): Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said after talks with US President George Bush today that the two leaders agree on policies needed to bring peace to Afghanistan.

Pakistan "remains committed to a political solution of the problem under which the brave people of Afghanistan will have the right to freely choose their own government without interference from outside," the prime minister said after a 90-minute White House meeting with Bush.

The fighting that has continued since the Soviet military pulled out last February and the presence of more than three million refugees in Pakistan threaten the security of the region, she said.

Benazir also declared support for US efforts to avert a nuclear arms race in southern Asia and to halt the flow of narcotics to the West.

Benazir said she assured Bush "of our continuing effort toward maintaining peace in the south Asian region and our determination to strengthen the process of nuclear non-proliferation through accords both bilaterally and internationally in a regional context."

Pakistan, which has been working with the United States to reduce the growing of opium, a source of heroin, "has already achieved some success and much more remains to be done," she said.

Bush said during the departure ceremony that he and Benazir discussed ways to encourage a political solution in Afghanistan that will produce "a non-aligned, representative Afghanistan government willing to live in peace with its neighbours."

Neither leader gave details of the proposed political solution but both have earlier stated that the current Soviet-backed President, Najib, must be excluded from a future government.

Bush praised Pakistan for "extraordinary" humanitarian efforts in caring for the Afghan refugees in its territory.

He said he strongly supported "Pakistan's efforts, and India's as well, to improve relations," and stressed the critical importance of avoiding a nuclear arms race on the sub-continent.

"She assured me that Pakistan's nuclear programme is committed to peaceful purposes," he continued.

"I underline my administration's commitment to discourage proliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons and ballistic missiles in the south Asian region and around the world," Bush added.

As Bush greeted Benazir, she told him, "we come to talk about how we, together as partners, may take our relationship and our people into the 21st century."

"It was not so long ago that Pakistan was a dictatorship and I was in prison," she said, recalling the military rule of General Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, which ended with his death in a plane crash last year that also claimed the life of US Ambassador Arnold Raphel.

Benazir said that in electing her prime minister last year, the first woman premier of a Muslim country, Pakistan's people



Benazir was received by Baker (left) on her arrival in Washington

have given a verdict against tyranny and for freedom, progress and human dignity, for justice and for the rule of law."

She said she had come "with new priorities to talk to the world's greatest democracy... on the economic, social and educational needs of our people."

Friendship

After greeting one another under gray skies, the two leaders retired to the President's Office for talks on ways to end the continued bloodshed in Afghanistan through a negotiated settlement.

As photographers snapped photos, the two leaders joked about their Ivy League rivalry. Bush attended Yale University, while Benazir was educated at Harvard.

"Your visit marks an occasion to renew ties of friendship between democratic Pakistan and the United States, and to chart new ways to strengthen old bonds in the many years to come," Bush told Benazir.

Attired in a traditional white shawl, tunic and shalwar, the prime minister replied that she came to Washington to begin "discussions of a new relationship" as both nations work to meet the "new challenges (that) confront us in the closing but complex phase of the Afghan war."

Pakistan, which is the third largest recipient of US aid, has co-operated closely with the United States in aiding the Afghan rebel effort to topple the Marxist government in Kabul.

The Washington Post reported today that the Bush administration is considering a \$1.4-billion sale of 60 F-16 fighter jets to Pakistan, but the two leaders made no mention of any such agreement in their welcoming remarks.

The US Defence Department

Greece protests

Interference alleged

ATHENS, June 6, (AP): Greece protested state-run Turkish Radio Television's alleged interference in upcoming crucial national elections to the Turkish ambassador today and demanded that it be stopped, diplomatic sources reported.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yannis Kapsis called in Turkish envoy Gunduz Aktan to the Foreign Ministry and in a verbal protest outlined the Greek government's charges against TRT, said a diplomatic source who asked not to be named.

TRT which is seen and heard by about 120,000 Greek Muslims of Turkish origin in eastern Thrace parallel to the Turkish border, has been broadcasting support for six independent Muslim candidates seeking a seat in the Parliament in the June 18 general election.

The independent candidates are also being supported by the Turkish consul in Komotini, Kemal Gur, who has been accused of being "too active" and "stirring up anti-Greek passions."

Major opposition political leader Constantine Mitsotakis of the conservative New Democracy Party, demanded that Premier Andreas Papandreu expel the Turkish consul "immediately and within the day for the open and raw intervention of the Turkish government through the Turkish consulate and the TRT."

Extremists kill 7 in Bangladesh

DHAKA, June 6, (Reuters): Left-wing extremists killed seven political activists in an hour-long gunbattle in western Bangladesh, police said on Tuesday.

A group from the underground Sharbahara Party attacked armed villagers belonging to the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal of parliamentary opposition leader Abdur Rab, in Jhenaidah district on Sunday night.

The seven victims were shot and then butchered with sharp knives, police said.

Sarbahara Party has vowed to bring about a social revolution in Bangladesh by eliminating the wealthy.

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Probe into riot deaths

LAGOS, June 6, (Reuters): A Nigerian police chief yesterday ordered an investigation of media reports that up to 50 bodies were delivered to a city centre hospital mortuary after riots last week against government economic policies.

Lagos state police commissioner Ahmedu Seidu said: "My reports suggest there may have been 27 deaths after very intensive police operations around the Ketu district last Wednesday, but the details are not clear to me yet."

Ketu is an outlying suburb of Lagos where riots escalated out of student-led protests against military President Ibrahim Babangida and hardship blamed on his tough economic reform programme.

Seidu maintained his official toll of casualties during last Wednesday's disorders at eight shot dead for robbery or other acts of hooliganism.

Senior officials at the Lagos General Hospital declined to discuss the matter, but other staff said police brought in 12 bodies on the day of the riot and a further 33 the next day.

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Solidarity wins

Jubilant campaign workers work through the night outside Solidarity's Warsaw election headquarters marking the names of victorious candidates as results of Sunday's parliamentary poll come in from all parts of Poland. (Reuter wirephoto)

12 blacks to hang for killing 5 youths

BISHO, South Africa, June 6. (Reuters): Twelve black men were sentenced to hang in the nominally-independent South African homeland of Ciskei today for being part of a mob that burned five youths to death.

A judge in the Ciskei capital of Bisho had convicted the 12 of murder with no extenuating circumstances for the "necklace" killing of the youths in a township near the Cape province port of East London two years ago.

Four other men were each sentenced to 20 years imprisonment after being found guilty of murder with extenuating circumstances.

The 16 were convicted yesterday on the doctrine of "common purpose," meaning they were not found guilty of carrying out the actual killing but of sharing the aims of those who did.

During the trial the court was told that a group of residents from Mdantsane township near East London abducted five youths in February 1987 and necklaced them after accusing them of killing another youth.

In necklacing, the victim's hands are tied and a petrol-filled tyre is placed around the neck and set alight.

The judge said although only a few of the convicted men had been involved in the actual killing, there was enough evidence to convict all of the accused of murder.

The case bears similarities to the trial of the "Sharpeville Six," who were sentenced to death in 1986 for being part of a mob that killed a black town councillor, President P.W. Botha commuted their sentences to long prison terms after an international outcry.

Two weeks ago another judge using the common purpose doctrine in the northern Cape Town of Uptington sentenced 14 people to death.

South African authorities have approved legislation granting an amnesty to 40,000 Namibian exiles, removing a major obstacle to their return under a United Nations independence plan, officials said yesterday.

Zaire's foreign minister conferred yesterday with President Botha and said afterwards that his government was reconsidering the wisdom of trying to isolate South Africa from the rest of the continent.

Kenya frees detainees

NAIROBI, June 6. (Reuters): Kenya has bowed to international pressure on human rights by suddenly setting free all political prisoners held without trial, diplomats said today.

They said the surprise release of Kenya's seven remaining political detainees over the past five days was the fruit of a long, low-key campaign by Western nations, led by the United States, Britain and Canada.

President Daniel Arap Moi last Thursday freed four men, including Raila Odinga, son of former vice president and opposition leader Oginga Odinga, to mark the 26th anniversary of Kenya's internal self-government known as Madaraka Day.

Solidarity warns not to exult

Poles 'hand in hand'

WARSAW, June 6. (Agencies): The Communist Party is hinting at a "grand coalition" with Solidarity after the union's stunning election success — opening the possibility for unprecedented power-sharing within the Soviet bloc.

But Solidarity warned Poles not to exult in the victory as power still remains in the hands of communists.

Jubilant Solidarity supporters celebrated with Russian champagne last night at their Warsaw campaign headquarters after the Communist Party acknowledged a "decided" Solidarity win in East Europe's most democratic voting in four decades Sunday.

For the first time since the post-World War II communist takeover of the East bloc, an opposition group will control a freely chosen Parliament chamber and will have veto power over legislation.

In conceding defeat on state television, party spokesman Jan Bielezycki explicitly reminded viewers of a previous suggestion by Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski of a post-election "grand coalition" for reform.

"The first step of the opposition toward the co-responsibility in participation in maintaining order in the country," said Bielezycki, in an English translation of his remarks provided by the PAP state-run news agency.

As Bielezycki spoke, Solidarity's national spokesman sat at his side.

There have been no specific details about what Jaruzelski intended in his call for a coalition in a Friday night speech, but it appeared possible that at least some government ministries might be offered to Solidarity.

The union has shunned such offers in the past, saying that it prefers to remain in opposition. However the union was not explicitly ruling it out this time.

"Solidarity's participation in a grand coalition would require more talks," said senior union adviser Bronislaw Geremek at a news conference. He added that no proposal had been forwarded.

Date with democracy

WARSAW, June 6. (AP): A tiny, hunched pensioner, her hand trembling on her cane, left the polling station with her eyes gleaming, finishing a trip down democracy's path she had not made for decades.

"I didn't vote previously. Who was I to vote for?" she said.

For many Poles, Sunday's parliamentary elections not only offered the first chance to vote for opposition candidates in 42 years of communist rule, but the first time there was any reason to vote at all.

Some had been staging personal boycotts. Others followed the call of the independent Solidarity union that urged people to stay away from the polls to protest elections in which all the candidates were approved in advance by the Communist Party.

"I voted for the first time, people really believe something will change," said a man outside a polling station in the residential Warsaw neighbourhood of Mokotow.

"Despite the fact that it is not fully democratic, at least there is a touch of a feeling that I can choose my own candidates," he said.

"Exultation could replace cynicism."

"I feel great," one 25-year-old proclaimed after dropping her ballot into the red-and-white box.

Alia Soche, though middle-aged, had never voted before.

"This is the first time," said the school sociologist in Warsaw. "I am very hostile to the system. My family suffered a lot during their 40 years in power. Solidarity is great to have. At last, for the first time, something will change."

so far.

Any such deal would be unprecedented in recent years. Since the late 1940s, communist parties throughout Eastern Europe have maintained an unchallenged monopoly on power, excluding independent forces from the political arena.

The historic win that unfolded for Solidarity was of shocking proportions for authorities.

Solidarity candidates appeared to have gained all but two or three of the 100 seats in the newly created Senate without having to go into a runoff vote June 18. It was possible that Solidarity could pick up the remaining seats then, for a 100-seat sweep.

In the existing parliament chamber, the Sejm, Solidarity won 112 seats in the 161 races where it was allowed to field candidates under an April agreement with authorities that set aside 65 per cent of the 460 seats for the Communist Party and its allies. Results for the remaining 49 union's candidates have not been known yet.

And it appeared possible that nearly all of the 35 leading communist or allied politicians running unopposed for the Sejm on

the "national list" may have been rejected because they were scratched off the ballot by more than 50 per cent of the voters.

The "national list" includes such leading figures as Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski, Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak and eight members of the 17-member ruling politburo, including No. 2 Jozef Cyrulak.

Under Polish law, the government officials rejected are allowed to keep their posts. But it undoubtedly would be a humiliating blow to authorities, and leading figures such as Rakowski might consider stepping down.

"Our geopolitical position has not changed," Adam Michnik, Solidarity adviser, said in reference to the fact that Moscow leadership, and other East bloc nations are watching Polish radical reforms.

"Those who have police in their hands have not been changed," he said in the article carried by the Solidarity newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza.

Michnik recalled that the reform-minded Soviet Union and China resorted to violence when people demanded too much freedom.

'I was Uno's mistress'

Geisha was paid \$21,000

TOKYO, June 6. (UPI): A weekly magazine charged that Japan's new Prime Minister, Sosuke Uno paid, a geisha \$21,000 to be his mistress, but the story raised few eyebrows today among the Japanese who considered it common for politicians to keep concubines.

A 40-year-old woman identified only as "Miss A" said in an interview with the Sunday Mainichi magazine that Uno, 66, paid her three million yen in 1985 to meet him repeatedly at a downtown hotel over a five month period.

The woman's accusation was confirmed by the madam at the geisha house where Miss A worked and the owner of a bar where the woman and Uno often went, according to the magazine. Uno's spokesman denied the report.

The magazine's editor compared the story to revelations that former US Senator Gary Hart had a relationship with model Donna Rice, forcing Hart to withdraw from the 1988 presidential campaign, but added he does not expect the same reaction in Japan.

"Politicians should set a moral



Uno: concubine

standard," said Shuntaro Torigoe, editor-in-chief of the Sunday Mainichi. "But I'm not so optimistic. There is a Japanese saying that what happens under the navel is not a reflection of personality."

Uno was elected prime minister by the Japanese Parliament Friday after a political bribery scandal forced Noboru Takeuchi from office. Uno has been touted as a clean politician and has promised to make political

reform his top priority.

"The bribery scandal exposed the connection between politicians and dirty money," said Torigoe. "We believe the connection between politicians and prostitutes should also be exposed."

Media stories of politicians' infidelity occasionally surface, including a photograph of Takeuchi's alleged mistress published when he took office, but they have never been considered cause for resignation.

The stories are usually limited to tabloids or weekly magazines, which are considered more sensational than the major daily newspapers, and can be easily ignored by the politicians.

"I don't think it will hurt Uno seriously because Japanese society tolerates it," said Hideaki Kase, a conservative author. "We still belong to the good old days of John Kennedy. We are still behind the United States in morality."

Uno is married to Chiyo Uno, 64, who has been described as a traditional Japanese wife, a concept which often includes tolerating a husband's infidelity.

Israeli police clash with 2,000 mourners

Palestinian killed in Gaza

JERUSALEM, June 6. (Agencies): Dozens of helmeted riot police fired tear-gas to disperse Palestinian demonstrators attending the funeral of a senior PLO official and Israeli troops reportedly shot dead a Palestinian in the occupied Gaza Strip.

The Army said it had no information on the clash in the village of Beit Lahiya where Arab doctors said one Palestinian was killed and two were wounded, one seriously.

Palestinian reporters said the clash erupted after troops tried to reimpose a curfew on the village of 13,000 after distributing new, computerised identity cards to residents.

The Army temporarily lifted curfews in Beit Lahiya and the Gaza Strip town of Beit Hanoun to distribute the permits, which all Palestinians will be required to carry in order to enter Israel. Palestinians detained for security reasons or convicted of serious crimes will be denied the entry permits.

Arab doctors identified the dead as Jamil Hafez Saleiman, 22, and said he was shot in the head.

The death raised to 507 the number of Palestinians killed in the 18-month uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Twenty-two Israelis have also been killed.

In Jerusalem, about 2,000 mourners waved dozens of outlawed Palestinian flags at the funeral of Omar Qassem, 48, a senior figure in the PLO's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Qassem died Sunday while serving a life sentence for his role in a 1968 commando raid.

Israel Radio said 20 Palestinians were detained following a stone-throwing protest that erupted after the three-hour procession and funeral through Arab East Jerusalem.

Green-uniformed border police fired two shots of tear-gas at Palestinian youths to force them to remove dozens of the green-black-red-and-white PLO flags they hoisted during the march.

Among the marchers were dozens of small children who flashed "victory" signs and wore clothing in the colours of the outlawed Palestinian banner.

Mourners vowed to increase their opposition to the occupation and carried signs saying: "Escalating the intifada will redeem Omar Qassem's blood."

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said today he is astonished the United States is continuing its dialogue with the PLO despite recent attempted border infiltrations by PLO commandos.

Arens told visiting American Jews that everything the US government does to "give the PLO status and legitimisation is counterproductive and cannot possibly help Israel's peace initiative."

Asked for his reaction to the PLO-US dialogue, Arens added: "It is a reaction of some astonishment."

"The PLO and its constituent organisations are proving that they have not only rejected terror, but they are continuing practicing terrorism, day in and day out," Arens told the 500 American Jews, who are considering immigrating to Israel.

A Foreign Ministry official said that despite its displeasure Israel did not plan to officially protest the US decision to hold another round of talks with the PLO on Thursday, the third since the dialogue began last December.

Earlier this week, members of the PLO faction, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, attempted to infiltrate northern Israel, but were stopped by Israeli troops just north of the Israeli-Lebanese border. Three commandos and one Israeli soldier were killed in the clash.

The United Nations Security Council was preparing yesterday for an urgent meeting on the worsening situation in the occupied Palestinian territory.

The Arab group met in the morning to put the final touches on a draft resolution that would condemn Israeli policies and call upon Israel to apply the 1949 Geneva Convention relative to the protection of civilians in time of war.

President Chaim Herzog yesterday reduced to 10 years the jail sentences on three Jewish guerrillas who killed four Arabs in an attack on the West Bank's Hebron Islamic College in 1985.

It was the third time he had cut their sentences since they were jailed for life.

Yesterday, Meguid and his British counterpart Sir Geoffrey Howe reaffirmed their support for the PLO's successful peace initiatives, and called on Israel to offer a constructive response in



Mitterrand and Ben Ali (right) wave to crowds in Tunis. (Reuter wirephoto)

Way to Mideast peace

France backs intl. conference

TUNIS, June 6. (Reuters): French President Francois Mitterrand, on a two-day state visit to Tunisia, said the path to Middle East peace lay through mutual recognition by Israel and the Palestinians, followed by an international conference.

"I am convinced" that neither of the two adversaries can deny to the other what it legitimately demands for itself: the right to recognition and security for the state of Israel and the right to a homeland and self-determination for the Palestinians, he said in an after-dinner speech yesterday.

Mitterrand said the problems were "so complex that we dare not hope this bilateral dialogue could cover them in full."

"That's why an international conference must bring together the parties with the support of the permanent members of the Security Council," he added.

Mitterrand, who left Tunis today for a sightseeing trip through cases on the Algerian border, said an international conference would make it easier for the parties to talk and guarantee any agreements they reached.

Israel rejects the idea of an international conference and the United States has reservations.

Mitterrand, the first Western head of state to visit Tunisia since President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali took power in November 1987, welcomed last month's endorsement by Arab leaders of the peace strategy of the PLO.

He described the resolutions of the Arab League summit in Casablanca, which proposed an international conference on the basis of UN Resolutions 242 and 338, as positive. The resolutions indirectly recognise Israel's right to exist.

He added: "Other steps must be taken to clear away the mistrust which has accumulated after 40 years of intransigence between those who have no choice but to speak to each other."

Mitterrand made an unexpected reference to Tunisia's ousted leader Habib Bourguiba, wishing him "a long and peaceful retirement after a life of struggle."

Mitterrand also lent French support to an Arab League decision to have three Arab heads of state mediate in Lebanon.

Meguid meets Thatcher

UK, Egypt back PLO

LONDON, June 6. (KUNA): Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid today held a "workshop" discussion at the International Institute for Strategic Studies on the situation in the Middle East.

His discussions with the British government concentrate on Britain's role on the deadlocked Middle East process, it was pointed out.

He is due to hand over a message from Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during their encounter today.

Egypt's return to the Arab League, Lebanon and the Palestinian question are among the main topics featuring in the exchanges, British officials said.

Yesterday, Meguid and his British counterpart Sir Geoffrey Howe reaffirmed their support for the PLO's successful peace initiatives, and called on Israel to offer a constructive response in

this connection.

Meanwhile, in an interview with The Times newspaper published here today the minister said, "I am not entitled to reveal" the contents of Mubarak's letter.

"All I can say is that it is important."

Speaking in Cairo before his arrival here, he told the paper that his country would remain a force "for moderation and stability" and he denied strongly that Israel had cause for concern now that Egypt was back in the Arab fold.

Meguid yesterday expressed hope that Iran would go ahead in implementing the UN Security Council Resolution 598 following the death of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Meguid told a press conference that Iraq had shown willingness for comprehensive peaceful settlement "and we hope that Iran would follow suit."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Diplomatic ties

ABU DHABI, June 6. (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Panama have established diplomatic ties at ambassador level, the official news agency WAM reported today. It said the decision, which took effect on Monday, stemmed from a mutual desire to boost co-operation and ties of friendship.

Secretary-general

AMMAN, June 6. (Reuters): Egyptian Academic Helmi Nammar began a tour of member states of the Arab Co-operation Council today and Arab diplomats said he has been chosen as the group's first secretary-general. The ACC was formed in February by Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq.

Nammar, 62, a former president of Cairo University, arrived in Jordan for official talks.

Faw reconstruction

NICOSIA, June 6. (AP): Four Iraqi envoys left yesterday with invitations for Arab leaders to attend inauguration ceremonies for reconstruction of the war-battered Faw peninsula, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the envoys will visit the Arab countries in North Africa and the Gulf, as well as North Yemen, Egypt and Jordan.

House Speaker

WASHINGTON, June 6. (AP): Democratic Sen. Frank Lautenberg nominated Thomas S. Foley as the 49th speaker of the House of Representatives, moving decisively to replace Jim Wright and end months of political tumult spawned by charges of ethical misconduct.

The full house was expected to ratify the majority Democrats' choice by the end of the day, and Foley was moving to set the tone for his stewardship.

Afghan supplies

ISLAMABAD, June 6. (UPI): The Afghan government is developing routes to bypass parts of the main highway from the Soviet Union to Kabul and avoid rebel attacks on convoys bringing badly needed supplies to the capital. Western diplomatic sources said today.

They said the prices of essential commodities in Kabul continued to rise as food and there were long lines for food and fuel. The government introduced a ration coupon system for the purchase of staples.

Sudan denial

KHARTOUM, June 6. (AP): Sudan's Foreign Ministry today is denying they have a joint military offensive against neighbouring Chad, as Chadian President Hissene Habre's government has alleged.

Libya's Foreign Liaison Bureau, or Foreign Ministry, issued a similar denial Sunday, shortly after Chad captured a joint military offensive against its northern neighbours of conspiring against it.

Soviet prisoners

ISLAMABAD, June 6. (Reuters): Afghan rebels and Soviet officials today discussed the release of prisoners captured during the nine-year Soviet involvement in Afghanistan, rebel sources said.

The 45-minute meeting in the Pakistani Foreign Ministry in Islamabad was the first formal negotiations since January.

Somalia fighting

NAIROBI, June 6. (Reuters): Somali rebels said yesterday that they captured a town in the north-eastern part of the country and repulsed a government attempt to take a rebel stronghold in the north-west.

The Somali National Movement (SNM) said in a statement that it captured the town of Erigavo last week.

US arms sales

WASHINGTON, June 6. (AP): The Defense Department notified Congress today that it had approved arms sales to South Korea, Egypt and Singapore.

The transaction with Egypt calls for helping that country modify three of its Boeing 707 aircraft into KC-135 aerial refueling tankers. The work is valued at \$130 million.

Amicable settlement

ROME, June 6. (Reuters): Libyan leaders have told Italy's merchant navy minister that they want an amicable settlement to a dispute over claims arising from Italian colonial rule.

Bail for Lebanese

OTTAWA, June 6. (AP): Charles Yacoub, a Lebanese-born jeweller accused of hijacking a bus to Parliament Hill, is to be released on \$30,000 bail pledged by religious leaders in the Montreal Lebanese community.

The ruling, handed down yesterday by Justice Elmer Smith of the Ontario Supreme Court, shocked crown attorney Julianne Pargent who immediately announced plans to appeal.

Jailed women carry spirit of intifada

TEL MONDE, Israel, June 6. (UPI): Rola Abu Dahan smiled when a military court accused her of helping kill an Israeli electronics student. For her, it was a small blow in the struggle of the Palestinian people to attain political freedom.

After more than a year in prison, Dahan still shows no remorse about her role in the murder of Yigal Shahaf, who was gunned down as he walked through Jerusalem's old city with his wife and friends.

"I didn't kill for myself. I'm not a criminal, I'm a political prisoner. What I did, I did for my people," said Dahan, now serving a 25-year sentence for smuggling into the old city the stolen pistol that killed Shahaf. "I did a little something for my country."

The former Bethlehem University student from the West Bank town of Ramallah is one of about two dozen West Bank and East Jerusalem Palestinian women held at the Sharon prison north of Tel Aviv.

The women, ranging in age from 15 to 62, are all security prisoners accused of crimes that cover the spectrum of anti-Israel activities, from throwing stones at police to murdering a soldier.

Despite the iron bars and prison walls that confine them, the women feel they are still part of the intifada, the 18-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation raging in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The intifada outside has encouraged the girls very much," said 22-year-old inmate Terry Bulata. "We feel independence is coming very soon."

The women eagerly ask each new prisoner for news of the uprising, and every half hour the inmates listen to the radio for news of husbands and relatives, many of whom have been killed, jailed or deported.

"One woman, one day before her release, she heard on the radio her son had been killed in a demonstration," Bulata told reporters who were allowed a rare visit to the prison. "So we're really inside the intifada. We don't feel we're on the outside."

Like most of the women prisoners at Sharon, Bulata was reluctant to talk about why she was in jail. She said she was being held for a fourth time, awaiting trial because she was "politically active." Before her arrest, Bulata worked at the Palestinian

Human Rights Centre in East Jerusalem.

"This is not my personal case, this is an intifada case," she said. Several international organisations have pressured Israel to release Bulata because of a liver condition, but prison authorities said doctors had determined she was well enough to remain in prison.

For Israeli authorities, the female Palestinian security prisoners have been a problem although they are few in number. Originally they were held at the Neve Tirtza prison in Ramle with Jewish and Arab criminal inmates.

The tension between the political and criminal prisoners flared into name-calling arguments and degenerated at times into hair pulling, prisons commissioner Levy Shaul said.

Finally, the Palestinian women were transferred to a wing of the Sharon prison, which was built for Israeli juvenile delinquents. The women complained of poor treatment, including bad food, lack of hot water, and insects in their rooms.

"The food is very bad and dirty. There are no vitamins," said Naima Ziadi, who said she did not know why she was being held under administrative detention without trial.

Handwritten text in Arabic script, possibly a signature or note.

MIDEAST

Khomeini buried in emotional frenzy

(Continued from Page 1)

where it lay in a state for 24 hours in an air-conditioned glass cubicle.

The tightly wrapped white shroud was torn to shreds as the mourners scrambled for mementoes of their revered leader.

The coffin was transferred to a military helicopter, but it was rushed by the crowd as it tried to land. As the helicopter took off again with the coffin sticking out of its open door, the crowd would the burial had been postponed.

But three hours later, a helicopter landed the rewrapped body in a metal casket, accompanied by Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani and Khomeini's only son Ahmad, who oversaw the burial.

Former Interior Minister Ali Akbar Natek-Noori, who led the funeral staff, told Tehran Radio the frenzied crowd even rocked the helicopter after he Imam's body was put back into it.

"At one point, the nose was up and the tail down. Then the tail was up and the nose down," he said. Eventually the pilot managed to break loose of the crowd and take the helicopter up, Natek-Noori said.

Earlier Ahmad was knocked down in the rush toward the coffin. Looking pale and dazed, with his black turban missing, he was hoisted above the crowd, and passed from hand to hand to waiting ambulance.

In the chaos, women, clad in head-to-toe black chadors, were pushing shoulders with men, defying Islamic teachings that prohibit physical contact between a woman and a man other than her husband.

Firemen used hoses to spray mourners with water to cool them off.

Most of Tehran's six million population turned out to bid Khomeini farewell. Millions more converged on the city from their regions, Iran's official media said.

About two million frenzied mourners had kept a night-long candle-lit vigil around the Bazaar-e Mosalla mosque.

Eight people died, some suffocated and others trampled under the feet of the mourners yesterday. About 500 mourners are injured in the stampede as temperatures soared to 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit). It was slightly cooler this morning, but the temperatures are again to the same level by night.

Khomeini died of a heart attack, 11 days after intestinal surgery, without resolving the problem of who would succeed him.

President Ali Khamenei was elected Sunday after winning 60 out of 74 votes cast by an assembly of Experts selected by Khomeini in the revolution's early days to handle the succession issue.

Although Khamenei, 49, is only a middle-ranking cleric, he was awarded the courtesy title of ayatollah with his appointment. But he can only be moved to that rank by senior theologians, after carrying out prescribed studies.

But Iran's Council of Guardians, the constitutional watchdog, said today that his orders are legally binding under the country's sharia, or religious law.

"Your excellency has been given the elevated status of leadership which guarantees the continuation of the Islamic republic," the council said in a message to Khamenei.

But as no political personality aspired to Khomeini's unique role, Iran may be governed by illece leadership once constitutional reforms now being debated are approved in a referendum set for Aug. 18.

Khamenei has endorsed the candidacy of Rafsanjani, 55, his political ally and the only lared runner for the presidency so far. Rafsanjani, who heads the so-called pragmatic camp, would likely be a member of group leadership that could also include Khomeini's son Ahmad, analysts believe.

Iran's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al-Osaimi attended the funeral, met today with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and issued bilateral relations, in Tehran reported.

JN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has expressed personal condolences over the death of Khomeini.

President Corazon Aquino expressed regret over the death of Khomeini.

Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Khaddafi described Khomeini as a revolutionary leader in a tribute to the Iranian leader.



Millions of Iranians walk through the streets of Tehran after leaving Masala Square for the burial site 20 miles from the city. (Reuters wirephoto)



Mourner's reach for the shroud that covers Ayatollah Khomeini's body. (Television photo)

Ahmad backs Khamenei Pahlavi urges revolt

ATHENS, (UPI): Iranian President Ali Khamenei, who succeeded Ayatollah Khomeini as his nation's supreme leader, was endorsed three times by Khomeini before he died, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said Monday.

Khamenei, who was elected Sunday to succeed Khomeini, at first said he did not want the post, but finally accepted when the Council of Experts voted heavily in his favour, said the news agency, monitored in Athens.

IRNA quoted Ayatollah Abolqasem Khazali, a member of the Council of Guardians, as saying Khomeini "indicated three times that he saw President Khamenei as a suitable successor."

Iran's official media Monday referred to the President as Ayatollah Khamenei. Before his appointment Sunday as "leader of the Islamic Republic," the 50-year-old Khamenei was one rank lower in the Shiite Muslim hierarchy, as a hojatoleslam.

IRNA said Khazali told the newspaper Resalat: "The Imam (Khomeini) commented in the presence of his son, Hojatoleslam Ahmad Khomeini, that he (Khamenei) is worth of leadership."

"Also in March, the Imam was told by Majlis (parliament) Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani that serving as Ayatollah Hossein-Ali Montazeri as deputy leader would put the country at a dead end," the news agency said.

"But the Imam replied, 'don't you have Khamenei?'"

Khomeini dismissed Montazeri as his deputy March 28 after differences surfaced between the two men.

PARIS, June 6, (Reuters): Reza Pahlavi, the exiled son and heir to the deposed Shah of Iran, urged Iranians on Tuesday to muster troops to march against Tehran following the death of spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Interviewed on French Radio from his US home, Pahlavi said he was ready to embark on a phase of more militant opposition because Khomeini's demise offered fresh hope of ousting the Iranian government.

To illustrate his point he borrowed phrases from France's national anthem, *La Marseillaise*, the hymn adopted by 18th century revolutionaries who toppled the French monarchy.

"The day of glory has dawned," he said, "and it is in this spirit that we must muster our battalions and that we must march in the direction of restoring our country's freedom."

Pahlavi, who declares he is committed to constitutional monarchy should he return to Iran, said Khomeini's death removed a major obstacle to a power change.

"With his disappearance we find the rest of the regime with its hands full of problems it will have to settle. I see no sign of a let-up in the conflicts of interest which might increase in the weeks and months ahead," he said.

Pahlavi was training as an Air Force pilot in the United States at the time of his father's downfall. He proclaimed himself Shah of Iran on his father's death and claims continuing support in Iran, especially among the armed forces.

Iran's armed forces and key figures from across the political spectrum declared their backing on Monday for Khamenei.

Khamenei received the support of influential parliament Speaker Rafsanjani as well as Khomeini's son Ahmad.

Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi, who tendered his resignation last September because of differences with President Khamenei, pledged his cabinet full support. At the time Khomeini ordered Mousavi to stay on.

"Just as we sacrificed our lives to abort the ominous aims of the enemies of Islam and the Islamic Republic (under Khomeini), we are

Garang meets Carter

Mediation in Sudan's civil war

ATLANTA, June 6, (Reuters): Former US President Jimmy Carter has offered to mediate in Sudan's six-year-old civil war, Sudanese rebel leader John Garang said yesterday.

Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, told reporters Carter made his offer during a meeting on Sunday.

"So far we have had direct contacts with the government," Garang said. He said the SPLA would welcome Carter's mediation efforts if direct talks between the parties broke down.

Garang was scheduled to fly to Washington today for three days of meetings with State

Department officials and members of Congress.

He confirmed that he expected to meet members of the ruling Sudanese coalition on Saturday to discuss terms of a permanent ceasefire. The Democratic Unionist Party, a minority element of the ruling coalition, previously had agreed to ceasefire terms with Garang.

The Sudanese People's Liberation Army effectively controls the portion of Sudan east of the White Nile and south of the River Sobat. The SPLA is fighting what it sees as domination by the largely Arab and Muslim

north over the predominantly Christian and animist region in southern Sudan.

He denied reports that factionalism within the SPLA is responsible for delaying the peace process. "That is more a wish of the government than it is reality," Garang said.

There has not been internal disagreement, he said, over the major demands of the SPLA — an end to the Islamic laws which mandate punishments such as amputation of limbs, stoning to death and flogging, and the abrogation of military treaties with Egypt and Libya.

Syrians bombard 3 Christian ports

Calls for peace ignored

BEIRUT, June 6, (Agencies): Syrian gunners and their Lebanese Muslim allies shelled Christian-run ports today despite renewed Arab calls for a halt to fighting in fractured Lebanon.

Security sources said Syrian artillery stationed in Muslim west Beirut bombarded the ports of Beirut, Jounieh and Byblos, the only links left between the besieged Christian enclave and the outside world.

Some residential areas of Christian east Beirut were also hit, they said, while Muslim security sources reported that some shells slammed into west Beirut.

A general strike paralysed Muslim areas of Lebanon for a third day as part of national mourning for the death of Ayatollah Khomeini, Iran's revolutionary leader.

No casualties were reported in the overnight shelling between the troops of Christian Army Commander Major-General Michel Aoun and Syrian forces and their local militia allies.

The bombardments defied a fresh appeal by King Hassan of Morocco, who said yesterday: "There must be a ceasefire in the minds of the people before the guns can be silenced. This is the last chance to move on from the crisis."

The Arab League mediated a ceasefire on May 11 aimed at ending two months of savage shelling, but it has been violated almost every day. At least 364 people have been killed and more than 1,200 wounded since mid-March.

King Hassan, with the heads of states of Saudi Arabia and Algeria, has been entrusted by the Arab League with trying to find a solution to Lebanon's complex conflicts.

The king said yesterday withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon must be carried out progressively "in fraternity and understanding."

Hassan told a news conference that the Syrians should be pulled out "step-by-step as the Lebanese state... takes over responsibility for its country."

King Hassan also said yesterday the committee was Lebanon's last chance and appealed to all parties to the conflict to support its work.

Meanwhile, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz held talks in Morocco today focusing on peace proposals drawn up by the committee.

Iraq backs Aoun, who has vowed to expel the estimated 40,000 Syrian troops from Lebanon. Syria supports a rival government led by acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim.

Aoun, who declared a "war of liberation" in March against Syria, said yesterday he would seek the help of the United Nations if Arab efforts failed to end Lebanon's 14-year civil war.

"If the Arab League fails in solving the Lebanese crisis, I will go to the United Nations... if the United Nations fails, I will seek other choices to restore my country's sovereignty," he said.

King Hassan said he was optimistic that the latest Arab peace efforts would succeed, stressing his heads of state committee had the full backing of the Arab world and no side in the dispute had yet reacted negatively to its mission.

He declined to give details of his proposals but said the foreign ministers of its three members would meet shortly in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to finalise details.



For Arabs

CAIRO, June 6, (Reuters): President Hosni Mubarak was quoted today as saying ties with Israel were in the interest of the Arab world and the Palestinian problem.

"Whoever thinks they (relations) are against the interests of the Arab nations is mistaken," he said in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, excerpts of which were published by Cairo's Al-Messa newspaper.

"Ties allow dialogue and contacts with Israeli leaders to convey our views and tell them this is right and that is not," Mubarak said.

GCC meeting to review Iran ties

NICOSIA, June 6, (Agencies): Six Gulf Arab foreign ministers met in Saudi Arabia today to discuss relations with Iran as well as ways of ending Lebanon's civil war, diplomats said.

The meeting was scheduled before Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Khomeini died of a heart attack on Saturday night and diplomats expect Gulf Arab moderates to revive calls for a dialogue with non-Arab Iran.

The Gulf Co-operation Council ministers — from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — will also discuss support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Diplomats said Riyadh, which has held Khomeini responsible for most of its wrangles with Iran, might now be willing to accept proposals for GCC-Iran talks.

The GCC, which generally supported Iraq in the Gulf war, is eager to see last August's ceasefire lead to a peace treaty and stability in the region.

Bahrain's Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, told the meeting today the GCC was committed to Iran-Iraq peace efforts. Peace talks between the two sides have been deadlocked since they started on August 25.

Saudi Arabia is the only GCC state without any ties with Iran. They were severed in April 1988 after Riyadh accused Tehran of hostile policies.

Riyadh, which also accused Tehran's ruling clergy of plotting against Gulf Arab leaders, has always been suspicious of Khomeini's fundamentalist brand of Islam and closely watched what it saw as moves to export his Islamic revolution.

The UAE and Oman have close political and trade ties with Iran and have in the past called for a dialogue between the GCC and Tehran to resolve differences.

The two-day GCC meeting in the Saudi Arabian port city of Jeddah will discuss efforts by three Arab League heads of state, including Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, to end 14 years of civil war in Lebanon.

Their committee met in Rabat this week to discuss plans for constitutional reform in Lebanon.

In an opening address, Sheikh Khalifa said the session is being held in the framework of "the Gulf family to continue steps to realise our ambitions."

He spoke of distinguishing signs of the GCC reaching such as the economic declaration at Riyadh's GCC summit and the Manama summit declaration.



Sheikh Mohammad

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SLA-men search village Hunt for radicals

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon, June 6, (Reuters): Pro-Israeli militants thrust out of Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon today to hunt commandos loyal to Iran, security sources said.

They said 150 militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) backed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers advanced six km (four miles) out of the zone, a buffer strip patrolled by the militia and Israel.

The force conducted a six-hour sweep of areas controlled by pro-Iranian radicals, looking for militants who frequently infiltrate the zone to attack the SLA and Israeli troops.

The sources said the force did not run into radicals but seized automatic rifles, rockets and explosives hidden in hills near the Shiite Muslim village of Maidoun, just outside the zone in the eastern valley of Bekaa.

Last year Israeli troops staged a three-day raid on Maidoun, killing 50 members of the Islamic Resistance, a coalition of pro-Iranian groups including Hezbollah.

The sweep today followed a recent increase in clashes in the zone involving Palestinian and pro-Iranian commandos.

In the latest clash on Sunday, three Palestinians who cut through Israel's northern border fence were killed in a clash with Israeli troops. An Israeli soldier also died.

An SLA spokesman said two militiamen were seriously wounded today when a bomb blew up under their military jeep as they drove through the village of Qantara inside the zone.

Israel set up the 15 km (nine mile) wide buffer strip in 1985 to protect its northern borders from commando attacks.

Ethiopia unveils new Eritrean peace plan

ADDISABABA, Ethiopia, June 6, (AP): Ethiopia's parliament adopted a new peace plan today that calls for unconditional talks with Eritrean insurgents in the presence of an international observer.

Approved in a one-day, emergency session called by President Mengistu Haile Mariam, the six-point proposal also said the talks should be held in public at a time and place to be agreed upon.

The plan is aimed at ending Africa's longest civil war, a 28-year conflict between the government and separatist rebels in Ethiopia's northernmost province of Eritrea.

The new proposal departed from past plans in its call for public talks with a mutually-selected observer. The government and the rebels have met secretly in the past with no noticeable gains.

It appeared unlikely, however, that the government's new initiative would find favour among the Eritrean insurgents, who control about three-fourths of the embattled province.

Shewan-Dagne Belete, chairman of a joint legislative committee which drafted the plan, said it was based on "the unity and territorial integrity of the country."

Talks on Cyprus progress smoothly

UNITED NATIONS, June 6, (Reuters): Talks between the leaders of the two Cypriot communities have progressed to the point where "the contours of an overall agreement are discernible."

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said yesterday.

"The discussions have brought out a number of specific ideas that could go a long way in resolving major issues," he said in a written report to the Security Council on efforts to reunite the divided island under a federal system of government.

Referring to months of negotiations in Nicosia between President George Vassiliou, head of the Greek Cypriot community, and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş, he said:

"The talks in which the leaders of the two sides have been engaged since last August have progressed to the point where the contours of an overall agreement are discernible."

Perez de Cuellar, who received progress reports during meetings here with the two men last November and in April, said he planned to see them again later this month.

"Building upon their exchange of views on major issues and concerns, and their exploration of a range of possible options for dealing with each issue, the two leaders have, over the past, been engaged in an exercise to prepare an outline of an overall agreement."

"The objective is to define the solutions for the issues that make up the Cyprus problems, and to set out the principles and procedures for translating the outlines into an overall agreement."

He hoped the present trend would continue "so that I shall be able to report to the council positive results after my meeting with the two leaders at the end of June."

The Secretary-General also recommended a further six-month renewal of the mandate of the UN peacekeeping force in Cyprus, stationed on the island since 1964 to help keep the peace between the two communities.

Libyan plane lands in Cairo

CAIRO, June 5, (Reuters): A Libyan plane landed in Cairo yesterday for the first time in a decade and passengers were greeted with flowers and embraces.

Cairo and Tripoli, ideological foes since the early 1970s, unofficially reopened their border last Monday.

"I missed Egypt. I dreamed of coming here. This is not my flight, but I insisted on being on it and coming here," said Fathi Soweilam, one of the aircraft's engineers.

The Boeing 727, carrying 87 Egyptian and 38 Libyan passengers, made the first direct flight from Tripoli to Cairo since 1979.

Libyan pilot Captain Fathi Badr said he was happy to be able to land a plane in Egypt again.

"For 12 years, I have not been in Egypt. I have flown over it, but not landed in it," he told Reuters.

The border was reopened less than a week after President Hosni Mubarak and Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi held rapprochement talks during an emergency Arab summit in Morocco.

Development evaluation Civil service meeting

THE assistant undersecretary for administrative development affairs Dr Nasser Jassem Al Sane has said that the meetings of the third group of administrators, which began yesterday will focus on three lines of discussion. The foremost is to establish mutual understanding of the various problems associated with the administrative development process.

He said that another point to be discussed is the ongoing and existing projects of the Civil Service Council in the field of administrative development, and the role of the different government organs in ensuring full implementation and follow-up of steps taken in this sphere.

He pointed out that a special questionnaire would be invited to evaluate the progress so far made in the field of development and the role played by the organs involved in contributing positive efforts to further push the process forward and ensure optimum success.

Science Club summer activities take off Motivating young people main aim

THE Science Club witnesses these days a large response from citizens, particularly, from youths who come to register in different fields.

A local daily interviewed the director of the club's main centre, Amer Ahmad Ali who stressed that the objective in holding intensive courses in summer is to spread scientific awareness among youth.

The club aims at improving the co-operative spirit among club members, in addition to scientifically training youths in the pursuit and development of their hobbies.

Ameer added that the club was able to create highly motivated youth who now consider hobbies they practice at the club an essential part of their scientific life.

He pointed out that some members established their own mechanical workshops after learning this profession at the club. Others are now continuing their higher education in the same field.

The club includes 13 main sections. It also organises a number of different courses like photography, sanitary and electrical works, advanced programming,

and civil defence during the summer period.

Civil defence and English language courses are offered by the club's summer programme for the first time. The Science Club now has 8500 members and witnesses an increase of 500 members annually. The annual membership fees are KD6 for members and KD12 for employees.

Regarding other activities, the club's Television Section produced a film depicting the club's most important accomplishments since its establishment. The film was translated in English, Arabic and French

and it was broadcasted by Kuwait Television.

Regarding future activities for club members, Ameer said that the summer period will witness a number of activities locally and abroad. The club will take part in the International Exhibition for Youth Scientific Productions from July 15 until July 23, 1989 in France. Also a number of club members will visit the NASA centre in the USA and will participate in a scientific course on astronomy. The club will also participate in the Gulf gathering next September which is to be held in Jordan.

GCC foreign ministers to discuss Iran in meeting

KUWAIT, June 6. (KUNA): Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed flew to Jeddah, today morning to take part in talks with his GCC counterparts of political developments in the Arab world and inter-GCC co-operation.

Sheikh Sabah and the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates will be holding an ordinary meeting for the GCC Ministerial Council which has been meeting four times a year since the GCC was set up eight years ago.

The council, according to authoritative sources here, will discuss the situation in the region in the wake of the death of Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini and possible resumption of Iran-Iraq peace negotiations.

Lebanon and the Arab League efforts to forge an end to the strife in that war-torn country were also to be discussed, the sources said.

The GCC foreign ministers would express support for the Arab League tripartite committee which was assigned by the Morocco summit last month to step up efforts to bring about peace in Lebanon, the sources said.

On the home front, the ministers will examine the outcome of GCC international contacts for strengthening co-operation between the region and other parts of the world.

Recommendations put forward by specialised GCC committees on how to promote inter-GCC co-operation would be discussed as well, the sources said.

Meanwhile the GCC Financial and Economic Co-operation Committee holds its 22nd meeting in Riyadh today with the participation of the GCC ministers of finance and economy.

KUNA quoted an official source at the Finance Ministry as saying that the committee would discuss at its meeting a memorandum on the evaluation of the real estate ownership system for GCC nationals endorsed by the GCC Higher Council at its 5th session submitted by the GCC Secretariat-General.

The source said that the agenda would include a number of issues relating to the deliberations so far made in the direction towards the unification of customs tariff by the GCC member states, and a review of the minutes of the 14th meeting by the GCC directors of Customs Departments.

Other issues to be dealt with during the meeting include the proposed exemptions of national industrial products from customs duties, in line with article 24 under the GCC Unified Economic Pact, and the Secretariat-General's memorandum on the procedures proposed for sorting out problems impeding the commercial exchange process between the GCC members, the source said.

UNDER the patronage of the minister of education, the Hawalli educational area held the first wheat harvest festival for the academic year 88/89 at the area schools.

The festival was attended by the Governor of Hawalli, Abdul Latif Al Burjes, the chairman of the board and director-general of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah, and the director of Hawalli educational area.

Winning schools of the wheat agricultural contest are Abdullah Al Mohsen Al Bahr elementary school for boys, Abdullah Khalaf Al Dahyan elementary school for boys (model), Amouriya elementary school for girls, Al Bairooni intermediate school for boys, Al Salmiya intermediate school for girls, Al Rumaihiya secondary school for boys and Asma Bint 'Abi Bakr secondary school for girls.

Telephone network to be expanded

Contracts signed for new centrals

By Salem Al Wawan

THE Ministry of Communications has earmarked KD21 million to expand the telephone network in some areas, according to a senior communication's official.

Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Communications for technical affairs Salman Al Roumi said that the new telephone network being executed by the ministry is intended to be serviceable for a period of at least ten years. Most of the old network has been removed, the official said.

The ministry has completed the main and general framework of the five-year plan. It has also approved the general objectives of providing telephone services to all areas of Kuwait.

The ministry intends to offer and operate 25 telephone lines for every 100 citizens until the year 1995. To achieve this aim, the ministry will build new centrals, expand some present centrals, replace old centrals with new ones and operate the new telecommunications tower and building, the official said.

In a bid to augment the Kuwaitisation process and bring about a demographic balance, the ministry is encouraging

Kuwaiti technicians and expatriates to operate its services and utilities. "It is vital that all sensitive facilities of the country be manned and operated by citizens," Roumi said.

He added that the ministry strives to appoint most graduates of the telecommunications institute and utilise their expertise at different centrals and utilities spread all over Kuwait.

The official went on to say that the ministry selects promising Kuwaiti students and graduates for overseas specialised training in the field of telecommunications and allied disciplines. On their return to Kuwait, they are offered posts at the ministry with additional perks for their overseas experience.

In a move designed to streamline and speed up the process of completing formalities of applicants who apply for telephone services, the ministry has begun using computers.

Computers now store all needed data such as recording applications, completing reservations of cables as well as serialising the number of the telephone of new subscribers.

The ministry's recent experiment with computers conducted at Raas Al Salmiya Central

has proved to be successful, the official said. He added that presently completion of procedure for new applications to obtain telephone services take about 30 minutes only at that central. Further, the applicant receives the telephone service within only five days after having submitted the application at this central.

This experience will be provided to other modern centrals during the coming two years and other centrals will also be provided with this same facility gradually, the official said.

Commenting on the establishment of new telephone centrals, Roumi said that ministry is still carrying out the Five-Year-Plan 85/86-89/90 which includes several projects to expand and build new centrals. The ministry signed a contract to install Farwaniya and Rigga centrals with capacity of 30,000 lines each. They are expected to be serviceable during this month. The ministry is also preparing a tender to build centrals in the new housing areas of Quraia and West of Fintas with a total capacity of 40,000 lines. The ministry will also contract to expand Mangaf central to have capacity of 10,000 lines, he said.



Cottage industry

Arab women sitting outside a modern shopping complex selling items to augment the family income.

Commando attack expressed pan-Arab cause

Kuwaitis should continue support: Hawatmeh

DAMASCUS, June 6. (KUNA): Secretary General of the Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine Nayef Hawatmeh has asserted that a recent commando operation by two Palestinians and a Kuwaiti against Israeli occupation represented "national scope of the rightful Pan-Arab cause."

Two Palestinians and a Kuwaiti, identified as Fawzi Majadi, members of the DFLP, last Sunday launched a commando attack against the Zionist enemy in occupied Palestine.

The three fighters were martyred in the operation, code named "Nabius Martyrs". The DFLP claimed responsibility for the attack.

Interviewed by KUNA today, Hawatmeh said the operation which "grouped Palestinian and Kuwaiti elements was a real expression of the national dimension of our joint Arab

cause."

"I would like to say to Kuwaiti people that we would continue, shoulder-to-shoulder, our national policy to defend Palestinian and Arab rights," he said.

Hawatmeh indicated that the attack targeted the Israeli enemy's troops and installations in the upper Galilee and that it reiterated the right of our people for armed resistance against occupation forces.

He pointed out that the Palestinian central council's session last April has affirmed "the right of all PLO factions for armed resistance to disintegrate the enemy's powers and reduce the pressure on the intifada."

The DFLP leader called on the US administration to clearly determine its interpretation of Palestinian political rights and work towards realising a comprehensive settlement and convening the international Mideast

peace conference.

He stressed that such a position was necessary "so as to end any maneuvers aimed at ridding Israel of present critical situation imposed on it by the Palestinian intifada."

Hawatmeh said the Palestinian side to the PLO-US dialogue is capable of confining the American side to "a narrow corner" by asking for "frank and definite answers on the ambiguous statements and slogans the US administration was announcing."

He believed that a dialogue between the PLO and Syria would begin shortly, saying that the resolution of the recent emergency Arab summit in Casablanca represented "a joint political base" for the two sides.

Hawatmeh asserted the need for normalisation of relations between the PLO and Syria and said "it was unacceptable to see

continuous negotiations between the PLO and the US and between Syria and the US, while there was no similar negotiations between Syria and the PLO."

Hawatmeh disclosed that consultations were currently underway to reach an agreement so as to start the Syrian-Palestinian dialogue within the coming few days without preconditions from both sides.

He praised the resolutions of the recent emergency Arab Summit and described them as "a great step towards the right national trend." "The resolutions on Lebanon's crisis and those on the Iraq-Iran war will open avenues to ending inter-Arab disputes and restoring the effective Arab solidarity."

Hawatmeh hoped that the summit's resolution would be implemented, the Lebanese crisis solved and the Syrian-PLO relations normalised.

Test-tube baby unit opens in Bahrain

ONE of the most significant breakthroughs in medical history during the last decade has been the introduction of a new medical technology called in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) leading to the birth of the 'test tube baby'.

Since the beginning of recorded history the problem of infertility has posed a major threat to man in his social, cultural and economic existence. In fact the whole human relationship is based on fertility. Infertility creates immense suffering, particularly to women, leading to insecurity, guilt and shame. Extreme cases can cause illnesses and even death. But thanks to tremendous medical advances the quality of life looks set to improve among infertile married couples with the help of this new medical phenomenon. At present about 15 per cent of all married couples around the world are infertile, explained Dr Khalil Rajab, a leading Bahraini test-tube baby expert. In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times.

The first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, who recently turned ten, was born in 1979 in Britain, thanks to the pioneering effort of leading scientists, headed by Professor Edwards of Cambridge and Dr Patrick Steptoe. In the wake of the success of this remarkable treatment IVF units were created in Britain, USA and Australia. In the early eighties the Arab world joined in and similar units were opened first in Cairo in a private hospital, followed by Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and recently Bahrain.

According to Dr Rajab, who works as a consultant gynaecologist at Salmiya Medical Centre, the idea of setting up of the IVF unit in Bahrain was devised 'methodically'. He said two teams of IVF experts from King's College Hospital London and Victoria Hospital, Adelaide, were invited to advise on the technical aspects of the project. A fertility plan, social studies and a programme of implementation was outlined.

Shortly afterwards a team of Bahraini doctors was sent for training in IVF to UK, funds were raised from various local establishments and equipment was procured.

The IVF unit was opened in Bahrain last week at the Bahrain Defence Force hospital in a joint-project of BDF and the Arabian Gulf University at a cost of less than BD500,000.

Registration at applied education institute begins

THE Dean of Students and Trainees Affairs at the General Authority for Applied Education and Training, Hesham Abdullah Al Motawa has stated that the authority will for the first time accept applications for admissions to the authority from students who obtained the diploma of the Teachers Education Institute. Accepted students will have to complete 80 credit hours before graduation.

At a press conference held yesterday, Motawa added that it is permissible for students to transfer from a college to another within the authority. He expected that only 5 per cent of students will apply for transfers and that 6,000 students will present applications to join training centres and colleges.

Payment

He said that the authority approved the fundamental chart for the academic system implemented at applied education colleges. Motawa added that the authority presents financial awards to students in accordance with requirements and specific specialities. An amount of KD50 per month will be granted to students at the Communications and Navigation College and KD100 for Electricity and Water Centre students. These payments are for a period of nine months.

Nasser confers with Arab counterparts

GENEVA, June 6. (KUNA): Kuwait's Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed has conferred with his Arab counterparts on the sidelines of the International Labour Organisation's 76th session, which opened here last night at the UN European headquarters.

The four-hour meeting, held under the chairmanship of Iraqi social and labour minister whose country is currently chairing the Arab League, reviewed ILO's agenda topics which include organising an International Media Day in solidarity with Palestinian labourers and people and ILO director-general's report on the situation in occupied Palestine.

Science students lack practical experience

THE Dean of the Faculty of Science at Kuwait University, Dr Fayza Mohammed Al Khorafi has said that the science college is considered the mother of all other scientific colleges. Students at other scientific colleges are required to pass several courses offered by the College of Sciences in order to graduate.

In an interview with a local daily, she added that the university established a consultation office which will organise courses for government establishments.

According to statistics, 96 per cent of science college graduates are currently working at posts that match their specialities. She added that a poll conducted by

the university staff revealed that scientific graduates lack practical experience.

The science college is currently conducting several studies to organise new disciplines to cover requirements.

She pointed out that the number of students and staff has increased since the college was established. However, no expansions were made to the college to accommodate this increase.

The consultation office, at the College of Sciences presented 8 scientific courses for university students and government establishments, the official said.

She added that the college will soon receive a new building which includes 26 rooms.

Learners permits

By Sayed Othman

THE director-general of the General Traffic Department Brigadier Abdul Hameed Hajji has said that the decision to grant learner driving licences (istimara) awaits the start of work of driving schools.

He hoped that these schools will start their work shortly in order to be able to issue learner driving permits. Hajji who has been newly appointed to his post began studying several decisions and recommendations to develop work procedures at the traffic department.

Harvest festival held in Hawalli

UNDER the patronage of the minister of education, the Hawalli educational area held the first wheat harvest festival for the academic year 88/89 at the area schools.

The festival was attended by the Governor of Hawalli, Abdul Latif Al Burjes, the chairman of the board and director-general of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah, and the director of Hawalli educational area.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audiences

KUWAIT, June 6, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir today received His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

HH also received Nepal Finance Minister Bharat Bahadur Pradhan, who delivered to His Highness a message from Nepal's king.

The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi and Nepal's ambassador to Kuwait.

Premier's audiences

KUWAIT, June 6, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah today received in audience at Bayan Palace Minister of Higher Education Dr Ali Al Shamlan, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashid and Planning Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi.

Sheikh Saad also received Secretary-General of the Higher Planning Council Fuad Mulla Hussein and member of the council Sheikh Mohammed Sabah Al Salem, in addition to the Ambassador of Finland to Kuwait, who is leaving for home at the end of his diplomatic tenure and Kuwait's ambassador to France Tareq Al Razouqi.

Sultan in Paris

PARIS, June 6, (KUNA): Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdulla Aziz arrived here today from Geneva on a two-day official visit to France for talks with his French counterpart Jean-Pierre Chevenement.

Prince Sultan will review with senior French officials developments of the Lebanese crisis and the Palestinian question in the light of resolutions of the recent emergency Arab Summit held in Casablanca.

The Saudi defence minister is scheduled to meet with President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Michel Rocard tomorrow.

Project meeting

ABDUL Rahman Al Houti, minister of public works held a meeting with officials of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) to discuss joint projects.

The minister stressed on the necessity of setting up a joint committee to follow up these projects.

Natural babies

DAMMAM, June 6, (Reuters): A Saudi Arabian civil servant with three wives and 34 children was quoted today as saying birth control was unhealthy.

"I am not thinking of family planning because birth control is harmful to health. My wives give birth each year and this is the cause of my happiness," Mohammed Abdelaziz Al Jassem, 42, told the daily Al Yom.

He said his wives lived "happily as sisters." He first married at the age of 14 and two of his wives are pregnant now.

Mashreq network meeting

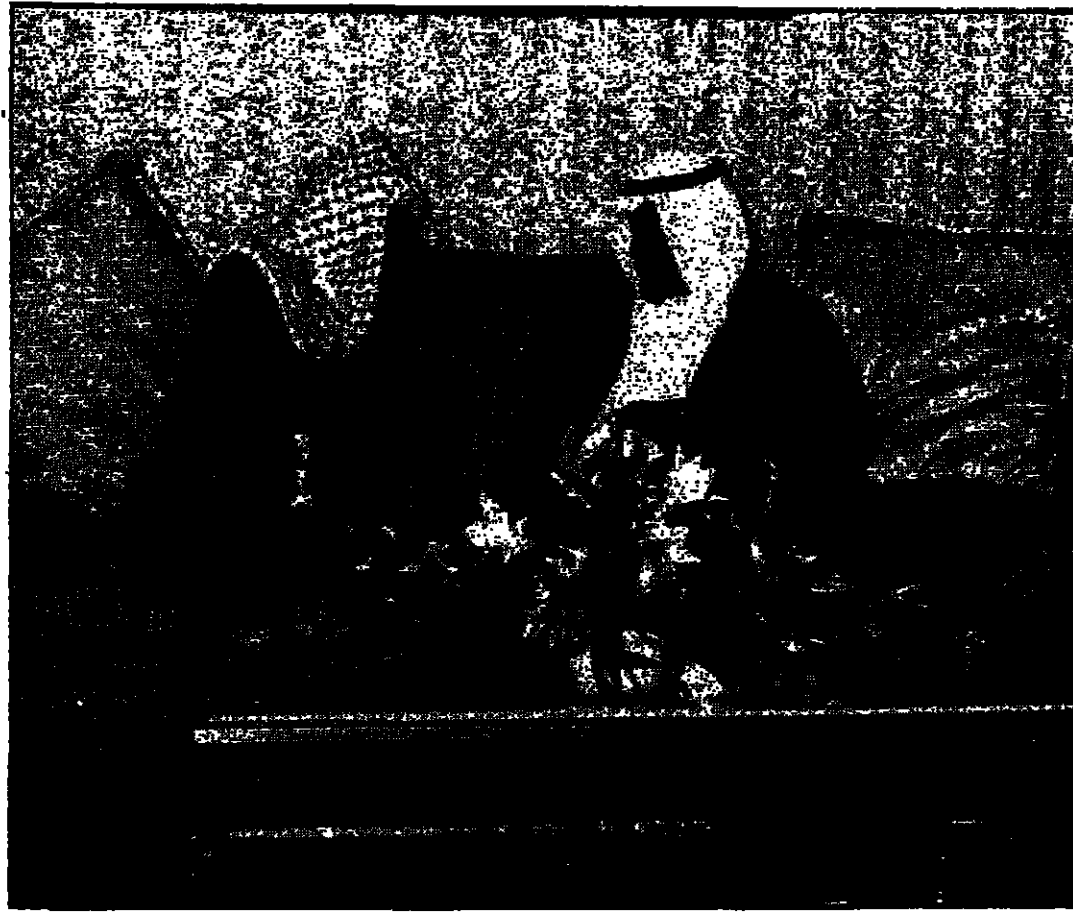
KUWAIT, June 6, (KUNA): Director-General of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development Abdul Latif Al Hamad today inaugurated the second meeting of the fund's technical committee on a project for linking Mashreq Arab electricity networks.

At the outset of the meeting, Hamad elaborated on the achievements realised so far particularly the fund-financed project to link Egypt and Jordan power networks.

The second phase of the project will later include Iraq, Syria, before linking the Mashreq Arab electricity network with western Europe via Turkey.

WEATHER

HOT summer weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind. State of sea: moderate to rough. High water: 3.00 am, 4.00 am. Low water: 9.00 am, 9.30 pm. Sunrise: 4.49 am. Sunset: 6.46 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 45°C (113°F). Ahmedi: 45°C (113°F). Falaika: 41°C (106°F). Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 27°C (81°F). Ahmedi: 32°C (90°F). Falaika: 32°C (90°F). Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 46°C (115°F). Ahmedi: 42°C (108°F). Falaika: 43°C (109°F). Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 17 per cent. Ahmedi: 27 per cent. Falaika: 40 per cent.



Amir, Arafat hold official talks

PLO leader Yasser Arafat arrived Monday and received the welcome reserved for visiting heads of state.

The Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, was at the airport to greet Arafat in a ceremony that included playing the Kuwaiti and Palestinian national anthems and an honour-guard inspection. The Amir named Minister of Islamic Affairs Khaled Al Jassar as Arafat's honorary escort during his stay.

It was Arafat's first visit to Kuwait since the Palestine Liberation Organisation elected him 'President' for the designated Palestinian state.

The state, according to the peace initiative launched by the Palestine National Council or Parliament-in-Exile last November, is to include the West Bank and Gaza Strip where a Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation is in its 18th month.

Arafat held official talks with the Amir and other Kuwaiti leaders on ways of continuing the uprising. The talks also covered developments in the Middle East peace process following last month's Arab summit which endorsed the Palestinian peace plan, and the Gulf situation after the death of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Shopping by catalogue in vogue

Inexperienced should abstain, say agents

THERE are several ways a woman obtains the latest in fashions. A section of women may prefer ready-made clothes, while others may prefer going to tailors. Another group of women use catalogues to select and purchase different wearing apparel.

In Kuwait there are several international fashion companies which sell through catalogues. Each of these companies has a local agent that comprise of sales representatives and distributors who are usually seen at schools, government ministries, establishments, and at places where women usually gather.

A local daily interviewed a number of local fashion catalogue agents and buyers to highlight the methods used in selling and buying through catalogues.

Orders

One of the local agents, Salem Rahman Al Salem said that sales are mostly conducted via representatives or through the main office. All purchase orders are then collected and sent by computer to the company which in turn will dispatch the goods.

He added that a purchase order may take up to two weeks before arriving here depending on the amount of goods ordered. He pointed out that all orders are collected and sent on a specific day of the week. Most companies have agreements with one of the airlines to ship goods twice a week.

He said that delays which may occur in receiving orders are because of representatives who may postpone orders for some time so they can collect them and present them all in one batch.

He urged customers who prefer a faster procedure to come to the main office instead of buying through representatives.

He said that in order to increase sales they offer customers and representatives facilities to pay in instalments. He said that a number of his customers are loyal and trustworthy besides they have been dealing with the office for 20 years. He pointed out that each representative has a percentage of sales. They are paid 10 per cent on each Deutschmark of sales.

Prices offered in catalogues depend on currency fluctuations. Prices are usually checked semi-annually during the summer and winter seasons. He said that customers who come to the main office will obtain better deals than those buying from representatives.

Another local agent said that there are two types of customers, the first type are the ones who have long experience in buying through catalogues and could recognise good quality clothes with suitable prices. The second are those who imitate the first group without having any previous experience. He urged those who lack experience to go directly to the main office.

Buyers on the other hand said that sales representatives may hide some of the facts from customers and importers. They said that when returning clothes to agents they only get back three-fourth of the paid value. They added that some local agents resort to illegal ways to get higher profit, particularly with customers who lack knowledge of English.

GCC private sector to be encouraged

DAMMAM, June 6, (GNA): A study issued by the Union of Chambers of Commerce of GCC states has called on relevant authorities of these states to offer detailed information about suitable investment opportunities and guide businessmen to invest their funds in productive projects.

The study added that although present trends of the social and economic development plans in GCC states encourage the private sector to carry out these plans, they still require the support and co-operation between government sectors and the

private sector to study difficulties encountered by the private sector and ways and means of surmounting them.

The study also called for offering project studies on the economic and technical benefits as well as costs of the investment projects at reasonable rates. The

GCC consulting offices have sufficient experience to do such studies. The study stressed on the importance of revising regulations to protect interests of investors in the private sector. It also called on the government sector to insure its purchases from the private sector.

Emergency computer centre site allocated

By Jamal Amin

DIRECTOR of Operations at the National Computer and Microfilm Centre, Ali Abdullah said today that a study has been completed on the allocation of an alternate site to be used as an emergency computer centre. The proposed site will be used in case the main centre faces problems like fires, technical troubles or sabotage. The new site will be prepared for use within a period of six months.

He added that all programmes, operation systems and data available at the national centre will be stored at the alternate centre. Programmes and data for subscribers who include ministries, establishments and authorities will be transferred to the new site and lines of those subscribers will be connected without affecting ongoing operations.

Transfer

On safety measures taken at the national centre, Abdullah said all information and data are transferred to magnetic tapes on a regular basis and then stored in a place outside the centre. This ensures the safety of the centre's programmes and information because they belong to ministries and public establishments.

Abdullah said his department works round-the-clock, because the centre provides important information to the government. He added that 38 government departments benefit from the centre's services through 120 telephone lines. Each line has access to 30 printers. The total capacity of the magnetic discs is over 78.5 million characters. The centre has the facility of operating several programmes simultaneously. A maximum of 700 users can use the computers at the centre at any given time without problems. He said that the centre can accommodate additional subscribers.

The centre is responsible for salaries of all ministry employees, classification of manpower in the private sector for the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, warehouses system for the Ministry of Finance, telephone, telex and telegrams bills for the Ministry of Communications and foreign trade statistics for the Central Statistics Department.

DGCA to monitor price structure

Airfares battle rages on

LAW No. 31/1987 enacted by the Directorate-General for Civil Aviation (DGCA) is aimed at safeguarding public interest and ensuring protection to local market activities, a senior official of the DGCA said.

In a seminar organised by a local daily on the theme of Tourism and Aviation, Dawoud Bouseli, director of Air Transport at Kuwait's DGCA called on all those involved in the tourism and travel business to appreciate the need for co-operation between the DGCA and representatives of the travel and tourism agencies.

In an explanatory comment, the official said that suspending Article 9 of the law related to regulating the price of tickets had not resulted in any losses to travel agencies during the last two years and following the issue of the relevant law.

Elucidating, he said that the article has been suspended due to several reasons, including an increase in the sale prices of airline tickets by some agencies which had resulted in a large number of citizens and expatriates being unable to travel abroad.

Imposition

The DGCA preferred not to impose any laws on travel agents, the official said and added that it is the intention of the DGCA to solve any problems that might arise by cordial discussions between travel agencies and airline companies.

To bring about a unified price structure which will be acceptable

to all parties concerned, a committee comprising members from Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) and DGCA has been formed. Affixing prices is governed by economic and social circumstances in addition to bilateral agreements and the approval of the Civil Aviation Authorities in the respective countries concerned.

The official stressed that the DGCA reserves the right to protect citizens and expatriates from any intended manipulations in the prices of airline tickets.

Manea Al Manea, an owner of a travel and tourism agency said: "We are optimistic about the results of the issues of the Law No. 31/1987 organising the activities of the travel agencies — provided that the law would overcome illegal competition prevailing in the country among travel agencies."

He added: "Unfortunately, the most important articles governing nine and ten had been suspended." These dealt with the pricing structure and banned any discounts.

He clarified that the minister of state for service affairs in a statement made to a local daily said the DGCA was not upholding the increase in prices and was supporting the stability of which prices in the local market which are subject to supply and demand.

Continuing, he said that this state of affairs left the travel agencies perpetually competing in giving discounts to their cus-

tomers in order to reactivate the sales of tickets. He called on the DGCA to review its decision and to strictly enforce the provision of the suspended articles in order to protect travel agencies.

Abdullah Al Darny, another owner said that some agencies had increased prices by 20 per cent. He said that he agreed with the DGCA's rejection of any increase.

Another travel agency owner Munawer Al Otaibi said that the minister of state for services affairs said that he doesn't uphold the increase of the tickets and the travel agencies also do agree with the minister in this respect. However, what these agencies want for the time being is to preserve their right to a commission of 8 per cent to nine per cent.

He added that for many years several malpractices were committed by some travel and tourism agencies as these agencies were supported by some airline companies and were given a discount ranging between five per cent to seven per cent.

He added, the end of the years 1981 and 1982 which the official described as the golden years for the travel sector, were followed by price wars among the travel agencies.

He recalled that following the issue of the Law 31/1987, the relevant statements included the new prices prepared by the DGCA and distributed to travel agencies to be applied as of Jan 1, 1988. Unfortunately, there was no abiding by the prices and disorder returned to the market.

Health Ministry working on plan

By Mahmoud Morsi

AUTHORITIES at the Public Health Ministry are working to complete the draft plan of the ministry for the next five years. The plan is expected to be completed next December.

The draft plan is based on three elements: describing the present situation in the health sector. The plan will focus on achievements of the previous plan and after evaluation, determines the aims of the next plan.

Some technical committees were set up including experts and technicians in different sectors of the

ministry to revise and evaluate health services and estimate future needs.

Drawing up an inclusive strategy of general policies for performance. Determination of qualitative and quantitative aims of the plan.

The sources added that in this respect, the health planners seek to apply programmes to develop health services, determine construction projects and study the situation of the health manpower in the ministry in order to avoid shortcomings witnessed in the present plan.

From the courts

Jail term, fine upheld

KUWAIT'S Court of Appeals has upheld a five-year jail term with hard labour, a fine of KD5,000 each, and deportation issued against two truck-drivers charged with attempted smuggling of a total of 270,000 narcotic pills of the Captigon brand. The total value of the contraband is estimated at KD76,500.

The court heard that inspection officers located a secret hideout in a truck coming from Turkey where the contraband was hidden.

The first suspect confessed that the truck was owned by his company and that he and the driver intended to smuggle the pills into Kuwait. The driver admitted having stashed the contraband into the secret compartment of the truck.

The court disregarded a plea by the truck driver that more than 15 inspection officers beat him up to force him into making his confession. The court based its judgement on a lack of forensic evidence based on the coroner's report.

Five years for murder

THE Ras Al Khaima court sentenced a 40-year-old man to five years imprisonment for killing his 17-year-old nephew with a knife. The parents of the teenager dropped charges against the uncle who said that his nephew wrestled with him three times last October because he refused to permit him and a number of his friends to play football near his house.

The uncle of the teenager said that he was hit with an iron chain by his nephew during these three fights and that his nephew swore at his mother.

KISR hands over Braille computer

A HANDING over ceremony of a Braille word processing system at the private education department of the Ministry of Education took place Monday.

The project has been undertaken by the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) with financial support of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS).

The director of private educa-

tion department Mohammed Al Hamidi has appealed to national establishments to help authorities enhance utilising the capabilities of the handicapped. He hoped that co-operation between the department and KISR will increase in the future. The director of engineering department at KISR Dr Abdul-Hadi Al Otaibi has stressed on the importance to use computer in services

offered for the handicapped. He added that the aim of the project is to offer an effective and developed instrument to write and type correspondence, exam papers, duties and bulletins by using the method developed by KISR.

Hamidi presented gifts for KISR received by Otaibi and for KFAS received by Mohammed Taki.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

"IMPOSSIBLE" is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools — Napoleon Bonaparte, French general-statesman (1769-1821).

OPINION

Logical solution is needed

WHEN we discuss the economic situation in Kuwait, some individuals advocate that what is required is the payment of the debts of a few debtors whose situation deteriorated due to the laws issued by the government at a time it had a major conflict with the National Assembly.

This is indeed not the case. We do not want our understanding to be so limited. The fact is that the number of troubled debtors is limited — particularly those with huge debts and they are not in a position to pay back even in a period of 40 years — let alone the 15 years stipulated by the government.

If orders are to be obeyed, they have to be realistic. These debtors cannot pay because they have no money nor assets equitable to pay. Basically, the state created a reserve for them.

To compare the debts of these investors with other normal loans, is certainly out of place. The debts resulted from mistakes committed by the government and the former National Assembly.

Moreover, the debts of these few individuals are loans to the banks, and as it is well-known, the bank's money is the money of depositors. Though, the debts are those of a few number of individuals, in the end it is the property of hundreds of people who deposited their money in the banks. Non-payment of such debts will mean banks will become bankrupt and thus depositors will lose their money.

When we talk about the debts of few individuals, we essentially aim at preserving the rights of depositors and the shareholders. This fact must be truly realised as the drop in banks' profits will affect many of the shareholders who are all Kuwaitis and some of them are indebted to the Credit and Savings Bank.

Sometimes we do not know what we say when we are affected by our passions. We must use reason in discussing sensitive issues like this. We should remember that the position of these debtors wouldn't have been as it is now, had the government not interfered and issued the Manakh laws. We do not want to think of the past, but want logical discussions. This will be the theme of our discussion, if we really want a just solution to this crisis.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Reign of terror by Jewish settlers

Israeli Army losing control

By Ann Peters

NEARLY 2,000 angry settlers sought revenge on the Palestinian village of Eizariya one night in May, smashing windows, overturning cars and shouting 'death to the Arabs'.

For months, the settlers had driven into Eizariya and driven out with broken windshields. Their frustration and rage over government inability to stop Palestinian attacks erupted that particular night after stones aimed at a Maaleh Adumim car injured a family of four.

"It's like a boil. It swells and swells and it explodes in the end because they (Israeli authorities) are not taking care of it properly," said Amos Tarmat, head of the Maaleh Adumim local council.

"There's a lot of pressure inside and people are going out not to get revenge, not against the Army, not against the Arabs, but against the government," he said. "It's a demonstration of anguish."

The case of Maaleh Adumim, established in 1975 a few miles east of Jerusalem and now the largest West Bank settlement, is an example of how radical moderate Israeli settlers have become during the 1-1/2-year-old Palestinian uprising.

It also is part of a rising tide of settler vigilantism that has terrorised nearly two dozen Palestinian villages and towns in the past month.

On May 29, a group of Jewish religious academy students and settlers, apparently seeking revenge for a stone-throwing incident in one Palestinian village, rampaged through another community, shooting, torching a house, killing a 13-year-old girl and wounding two other residents of Kif Harith.

"The rule of law is coming apart at the seams," the Ma'ariv newspaper wrote in calling for a swift end to the vigilantism. "The fire of mutual hatred is spreading. There is no time to wait. If we tarry, we will all be victims of the anarchy which is liable to break down the foundations of the state and society."

Settler raids against Palestinian villages — whether in retaliation or to show a Jewish presence in the occupied territories — have been a feature of Arab-Israeli relations since Rabbi Moshe Levinger led the first settlers into the West Bank town of Hebron after the 1967 war.

But the frequency and intensity of recent attacks has led some Israelis to warn that the Army is losing control. For the first time, settlers physically attacked high-ranking officers attempting to halt rampages.

In a commentary in the Ha'aretz newspaper, military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff said the Israeli defence forces were on "the verge of losing control over inflamed settlers in the territories who are organising in their hundreds for retaliatory actions against Arab settlements."

Others claim the government sent the wrong message to settlers by failing to prosecute more vigorously the 16 Palestinian deaths involving Israeli civilians or to investigate possible settler involvement in several other Arab slayings during the uprising.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1494 — Spain and Portugal, by Treaty of Tordesillas, agree to divide the new world between themselves.
- 1540 — Peace of Ardres ends England's war with France and Scotland.
- 1557 — England declares war on France as an ally of Spain, and Scots invade England.
- 1672 — Dutch defeat combined British and French fleet in Southwold Bay, England.
- 1862 — Britain and United States sign treaty for suppression of slave trade.
- 1866 — Prussian troops march into Holstein.
- 1905 — Norwegian storting decides on separation from Sweden.
- 1921 — First parliament of Northern Ireland opens.
- 1940 — Organized resistance against German invaders ends in Norway in World War II.
- 1942 — Battle of Midway in Pacific ends in major US victory over Japanese in World War II.
- 1967 — Israeli forces driving into Egypt reach banks of Suez Canal.
- 1970 — Voters in Switzerland reject proposal to force almost one-third of a million aliens to leave that country.
- 1975 — United States withdraws its last combat aircraft based on Nationalist Chinese island of Taiwan.
- 1987 — Senior communist party and government officials in Czechoslovakia are implicated in major corruption trial.
- 1988 — First contingent of Indian troops sent to Sri Lanka 10 months previously to enforce peace accord is withdrawn.

Limited immediate impact on Beijing's fighting ability

US arms cut-off will not hurt China

DESPITE China's hunger for modern arms, President George Bush's decision to cut off US military sales to the Chinese will make no immediate difference in Beijing's fighting ability, defence analysts said on Monday.

They said Bush's suspension of ongoing US sales totalling \$601.5 million could cause some inconvenience for Chinese arms planners, but that the equipment was not essential to that country's large and antiquated fighting machine.

"The Chinese aren't buying much from the United States or anyone. They have talked a bigger military buying game than they have played," said Barry Blechman of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

He and other private analysts said the Chinese Air Force would love to have \$502 million in targeting radar and other cockpit equipment that Beijing has agreed to buy for its swept-wing F-8 fighter jets.

Announced

The Pentagon announced shortly after Bush said he was cutting arms sales because of China's violent crackdown on freedom demonstrators that the avionics had been scheduled to be shipped early next year but that the move is being held up.

"But with or without that equipment, those planes are hardly a match for modern US and Soviet fighters," said Jim Blackwell, a senior fellow for the Washington-based centre for strategic and international studies.

Retired Air Force general David Jones, former chairman of the Pentagon joint chiefs of staff, said the Chinese have been reluctant to buy expensive arms because they want to spend limited hard currency on modernising the private sector.

"A lot of countries liked their chops in the 1970s when the Chinese military, in a sudden zeal, sent delegations out to look at weapons. People had visions of making a lot of money on a very big and very rugged military," said Jones.

But the sales did not mount as expected.

Military co-operation between Washington and Beijing has increased sharply in recent years with US government approval of the sale of the fighter avionics as well as Navy torpedoes, ground radar and artillery modernisation equipment to Beijing.

All US military sales to China must



President George Bush toasts with Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping during the US President's visit to China in February this year. (Reuter wirephoto)

first be approved by the White House and submitted to Congress for consideration before they can be completed. The Bush administration said earlier it intended to continue military co-operation, although no figure was put on the plan.

In 1985, the United States agreed to sell \$38 million in plans and equipment to modernise China's ability to produce 155mm artillery shells. But the Pentagon said following Bush's announcement on Monday morning that "we are suspending final work on bringing the two plans into operation."

In addition to approval of the F-8 avionics sale in 1985, the United States

also approved the sale of four MK-46 torpedoes to the Chinese Navy for \$8 million. Test equipment has been delivered, but not the torpedoes.

The United States has also agreed to sell four ground radars to the People's Liberation Army for \$62 million, but only two have been delivered. They are designed to pinpoint the source of enemy artillery fire so that fire can be returned.

"As you can see, this all doesn't involve a lot. But it was a good start in the right direction of co-operation as China moved toward better relations with the West," one senior Pentagon official told Reuters.

The official, who asked not to be identified,

noted that senior military delegations had exchanged visits in the past two years and that three US Navy warships visited Shanghai last month after a Chinese Navy warship visited Hawaii.

"It's all on hold now and it's too bad," the official said. "But the president had to let them know where we stand about what has gone on in recent days."

Private military sales to China last year totalled \$85 million, according to the state department.

Bush's announcement followed a day in which key Congressmen criticised his initial response — a written statement condemning the violence — as too timid. But the Bush programme fell short of

steps some members had been urging, such as recalling the ambassador for consultations.

The US president said it was essential that the ambassador stay in Beijing to report on developments and that the United States maintain ties to preserve influence with the Chinese government.

"Our ambassador provides one of the best listening posts we have in China," Bush told reporters.

"I don't want to see a total break in this relationship, and I will not encourage a total break in the relationship. When you see these kids struggling for democracy and freedom. This would be a bad time for the United States to withdraw and pull back and leave them to the devices of a leadership that might decide to crack down further."

Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger told a television audience it was important to maintain ties with strategic China and that acting precipitously by breaking off diplomatic ties could erode US leverage and leave the Soviet Union with too much influence in Asia.

Response

China scholar Harold Hinton said Bush's response was appropriate under the circumstances because the Chinese government was being deprived of something it wanted — military technology — and because it put Washington on record strongly protesting the Army's action.

That would help in the years ahead when today's students rose to positions of power in new governments, he said.

The analysts said there was little Washington could do to affect the situation in China.

Penelope Hartland-Thunberg, a China expert with the private Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said those who ordered the troops to attack knew in advance the move would provoke outrage in the West and proceeded anyway.

This showed that US protests to China would have little impact on them, she said.

Citing reports that Chinese Army units were fighting each other and pro-democracy protesters stockpiling makeshift weapons, Harding and Hinton said it appeared likely China would be wracked with turmoil, possibly civil war, for some time to come.

It is hard for any outside country, even a superpower, to exert much leverage under those circumstances.

Mixed feelings about Aoun's motives

Fuel shortages sap Christian morale in Aoun's Lebanon

By Donna Abu-Nasr

THE once-bustling Christian enclave north of Beirut has become a ghost town. Daily shelling by Syrian forces for 11 weeks has driven most residents into underground shelters and sapped the life from the region once known as the Monte Carlo of the Middle East.

The barrages have eased since the Arab League called for a cease-fire May 11, but a gas shortage has paralyzed the region, adding to the problems of a Christian population outnumbered and outgunned by Syria and its allies.

"If it's not shelling, it's gas, and if it's not gas, it's something else," complained Samira Khater, a secretary.

An air of stupor hangs over the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) enclave, home to an estimated one million Christians.

There is almost no traffic. Business is slow. Factories that survived the ferocious shelling limp along with

skeleton staffs and whatever fuel they can scrounge.

Restaurants are lucky if they get 10 customers a day. Half the shops, hidden behind sandbags and earth-filled oil drums, are shuttered.

The night life that once thrived in the clubs, bars and restaurants along the Mediterranean coastline is dead.

The famous Casino du Liban, where visitors from the Gulf and high-rollers from around the world once gambled, is closed.

It was a regular target for the Syrian gunners who have battled the forces of Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun since March 8 in some of the most savage artillery and rocket battles of Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war. Some 360 people have been killed and nearly 1,400 wounded, mostly civilians.

The Christians are tired and dispirited, struggling to cope with a grim fatalism.

The cease-fire had raised people's hopes

they would be able to pick up the pieces of their shattered lives and find some semblance of normality. Instead, there's an eerie stillness punctuated only by the periodic crump of exploding shells.

The Syrians maintain their blockade of the Christian enclave, ringed on its landward sides by hostile Muslim forces.

Small cargo ships run the gauntlet of shellfire to bring in food and ammunition for the besieged Christians. Supermarkets bulge with imported goods — pink champagne, passion fruit tea, 10 brands of whisky, cookies, chocolates, hams and cheeses.

Fruit and vegetables are in short supply, but available for a price. Before the fighting, most produce came from Syrian-controlled areas. Now it's smuggled in at night by muletrain from the north.

But the blockade runners don't try to bring gas.

"It only takes one hit to blow up a ship

loaded with fuel," a police spokesman said. "So no one dares take the risk."

The enclave's fuel reserves went up in flames when a Syrian barrage blew up the seaside Dora depot in East Beirut two months ago.

The French, Lebanon's colonial rulers until 1943 and the Christians' traditional protector, shipped in 4,000 tons of fuel to reactivate shut-down power plants a few weeks ago.

But there's precious little gasoline around. Only about one-fifth of filling stations bother to open. Police said two people have been killed and 10 wounded in gunfights over gas.

A worker at one filling station, who did not want to be identified, said it opens "only when the Army can send a tank to maintain order."

"That's why people have to wait for days in front of the stations and all they get in the end is 10 litres (2-1/4 gallons)," he said.

Twenty litres (5-1/2 gallons) at filling stations costs 1,800 pounds (\$3.50). On the black market, it's 25,000 pounds (\$50), a month's wages for many Lebanese.

Long lines of cars, some extending for a mile (1.6 kilometres), wait outside many filling stations.

"At first, everyone used to wait for days in their cars, even during the shelling," grocer Shamir Madi said. "Now we take it in turns to wait for a station to open. When it does, whoever's keeping vigil telephones everyone else and they all rush to the station."

Bank clerk Samar Moallem, who earns 30,000 pounds (\$60) a month, hasn't gone to work for weeks.

"I can't afford to pay my wholesale for 20 litres or pay 1,000 pounds (\$2) a day for taxis getting to and from work. I told the bank if they want me, they'll have to get me gas."

Election throws up intriguing prospects

Awkward alliance in Poland

By Patricia Koza

POLAND'S elections, one of the East bloc's boldest democratic experiments since World War II, have produced an awkward alliance between the Communist Party and Solidarity — if the two former enemies can learn to co-operate.

That's a big if.

Solidarity, re-legalised as an independent trade union only two months ago, trounced the Communist Party in Sunday's parliamentary elections, according to preliminary results in the most democratic balloting in the Soviet sphere since 1946.

The problem is whether the trouncing, a backlash from angry Poles able to choose at the polls for the first time in four decades, will be so humiliating that it will throw the party into turmoil and let "I told you so" hardliners get the upper hand once again.

Now the party-led government coalition faces the daunting prospect of a Senate almost totally composed of Solidarity deputies, plus a lower house of parliament — the Sejm — in which all 161 Solidarity candidates who were eligible won their seats in the first round.

To be sure, the communist-led government coalition still controls the 460-seat Sejm, or lower house of parliament. But Solidarity clearly has the power, if it wants to use it, to wreak havoc by blocking in the 100-seat Senate legislation that originates in the lower house.

"Somebody once said democracy is expensive. This is true," said Jerzy Bielecki, a political analyst for the party



Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity.

daily Trybuna Ludu. "But regardless of the results of the elections, we are ready to pay the price."

Party spokesman Jan Bisztyga made it clear the communist leadership took a leap of faith in agreeing to partially free elections at round-table talks with Solidarity.

The talks ended April 5 with an unprecedented agreement which also re-legalised the trade union for the first time since the imposition of martial law in 1981.

"We will be glad for any election result that will allow us to carry on the policy of reform," Biszyga said. "This we would call a victory."

"We shall not retreat from the road of democracy and reforms," he said in a concession statement on national television.

But he warned that if Poles used the resounding Solidarity victory to embark on a road of "excessive triumph and adventurism" that leads to anarchy, "then democracy and social peace will be jeopardised."

Solidarity took a similar leap of faith by agreeing to co-operate with a communist government that says it is bent on carrying out reforms, although the union will retain its opposition role.

When Senate candidate Zbigniew Romaszewski, from a district near Krakow, was asked whether Solidarity deputies in parliament might present an alternative candidate to Communist Party leader Wojciech Jaruzelski for the new post of president, he said, "absolutely not."

The reason: such a move would be too much for the government to swallow.

But assuming the East bloc's most awkward alliance now can find a way to work together, Poland could serve as one of the Soviet bloc's strongest links with the West.

Within weeks after the historic April 5 agreement, visits to Poland were firmed up for President Bush, French President Francois Mitterrand and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The United States, France and West Germany are three of the biggest potential business and investment partners for Poland, which will not survive without a massive injection of capital. It is this realisation that pushed the communist leadership to the round-table talks in the first place.

And with the new co-operation in NATO and Western Europe's economic integration by 1992 on the horizon, a Polish election that is made to work could have an influence on Western thinking toward the rest of the East bloc.

Pol Pot play for respectability

By Joseph De Rienzo

POL POT, Cambodia's former ruler whose government was held responsible for the murder of up to a million of its people, has promised to quit politics but analysts believe it is a manoeuvre by his Khmer Rouge party.

They believe he remains the Khmer Rouge's top leader and that his promise was a bid by his guerrilla group to shed its notoriety before Cambodian peace talks. His pledge to quit was conditional on Vietnamese forces leaving Cambodia.

Vietnam, which invaded Cambodia in December 1978 and drove out the Khmer Rouge, has said all its troops will leave by the end of September.

"He's still the strongman in the Khmer Rouge," said an official from a non-communist Cambodian guerrilla group.

"The Khmer Rouge is pleading for a chance. I reckon their current objective is to be part of a four-party settlement," a Western diplomat said.

The Khmer Rouge and two allied non-communist factions, are due to negotiate with the Vietnamese-installed government on July 25 and an international Cambodian peace conference is scheduled for the following month, both of them in Paris.

"The Khmer Rouge want the name Pol Pot as far in the background as possible when these talks take place," an Asian diplomat said.

Several previous negotiating rounds collapsed over the issue of sharing power with the Khmer Rouge.

Diplomats said there was growing Western pressure for Phnom Penh and the two small non-communist factions headed by former head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former prime minister Son Sann to arrange a settlement that would exclude the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge is the most potent Army in the guerrilla coalition, which is recognised by the United Nations, but it is diplomatically the most isolated because of the bloody record of its four-year rule.

China, the prime champion for inclusion of the Khmer Rouge in any settlement, is in disgrace because of the massacre of students and other civilians in Beijing, envoys in Bangkok said.

Khmer Rouge radio, broadcast from China and monitored in the Thai capital, quoted Pol Pot as saying in a letter of resignation dated March 4 that he would quit politics if Vietnamese forces leave Cambodia.

He said he would like to remain as "a researcher" at the Khmer Rouge High Institute of National Defence "until all Vietnamese aggressors are driven out of Cambodia," he said.

The broadcast said approval was given in the name of Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, the Khmer Rouge's political and Army leaders, on June 3. (Reuters — Bangkok)

Rival soldiers fight in Beijing

(Continued from Page 1)

Western intelligence sources said several Army groups appeared to be moving in to confront the 27th, believed under the personal control of President Yang Shangkun, a hardliner and former military chief. The 27th led the bloody weekend crackdown that has enraged much of the country.

The 38th Army has close ties to Defence Minister Qin Jiwei, the former commander of the Beijing military region, and Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang, both believed to have opposed the use of troops against anti-government demonstrators.

But at the Yuan Mu news conference, Maj. Gen. Zhang Gong denied a foreign news agency report that troops from the 27th and 38th had clashed at Nan-yuan military airport south of the capital, saying those armies were not at the facility.

A Western military analyst, who surveyed troop deployments in the capital, said the units had not yet taken tactical measures such as setting up observation posts that would indicate imminent attack.

Hospitals were reported to be under military control and employees reached by telephone refused to give out casualty figures or said no new dead or wounded arrived.

At least 321 people are known to have died in the violence, but a Red Cross official predicted the toll would rise into "the thousands." Bodies were still seen on some roadways.

In response to world condemnation of the military assault on the civilian populace, Yuan quoted the "head of the state council," without naming Premier Li Peng, as saying the government is unfazed by strong words or sanctions.

In Tiananmen Square, where the Army set up a base after its brutal crackdown to eject pro-democracy students who had occupied the square for more than two weeks, helicopters shuttled in and out, as did convoys of battle tanks and troop trucks.

Some students and other civilians are known to have captured weapons from soldiers fighting over the weekend.

Several foreign embassies, meanwhile, urged their nationals to leave Beijing, and some arranged special charter flights to speed evacuation.

"Because of the security situation it is unwise to stay," a US embassy official said.

Major Chinese cities were paralysed by unrest as people took to the streets to protest against the bloody suppression of the Beijing pro-democracy movement.

Shanghai City Radio said the situation in China's largest city was unprecedented in the 40 years since Mao Tse-tung founded the Communist government.

A separate radio broadcast quoted local officials as saying the whole municipal economy was on the brink of collapse.

Traffic in many major cities has been blocked for several days by roadblocks manned by troops incensed at the Beijing violence and frightened that the Army could be poised to move to other areas, witnesses reached by telephone said.

A study leader from the Liberation of Nanking University said students wanted a general strike in the city.

In Chengdu, "a gang of criminals" burned down southeast China's largest emporium on Sunday and burned and looted 21 shops, Sichuan provincial radio said.

It said a crowd set fire to a police station, burned out fire trucks sent to fight the fire and fought armed police with bottles and stones.

A Chengdu resident said there were clashes between the students and soldiers, leaving five casualties. He said he did not want to give details.

Residents of Lanzhou, in northwest China, said tens of thousands of people continued to block all roads and that students had stopped some shops outside the city.

Hong Kong Radio gave confirmed reports that a number of demonstrators had been killed in Lanzhou but the soldiers did not know of clashes.

In the central city of Wuhan, demonstrators for a third day blocked the vital train line between Canton in the south and Beijing in the north, crippling one of the country's main transport arteries, a university student said.

More than 10,000 students and workers were out in the streets holding demonstrations, chanting anti-government slogans and praying for the dead young students, he said.

In Canton, south China, about 600 students and workers were attempting to block five bridges, student at Sun Yat Sen University said.

"Some students are not afraid to die," he said.

Chinese television today denied a rumour that paramount leader Deng Xiaoping was dead.

The broadcast said the rumour, which has been widely heard in Beijing and reported in Hong Kong and Taiwan newspapers, was untrue.

The Soviet parliament today condemned all outside attempts to put pressure on Beijing over bloody clashes between troops and civilians, saying it was an internal Chinese issue.

But a resolution adopted by a large majority by the new Congress of People's Deputies also said it hoped China would be able to continue further along the road of political and economic change.

Prime Minister Michel Rocard told the national assembly:

"France has decided to freeze relations with China at all levels."

France's move was the strongest punitive action so far by a major power against China and Rocard implied that further measures could be agreed by the 12-nation European Economic Community (EEC).

"The member states of the community are at this moment co-ordinating their position regarding China," he said during a parliamentary debate.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher expressed outrage and revulsion today over the killing of pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing and said normal relations with the Chinese government could not continue.

Britain banned arms sales to China today, following what the foreign secretary called the "slaughter of innocent people" in Beijing.

The Defence Ministry said it could give no immediate details on the extent of Britain's arms trade with China.

The Swiss government said it has banned all arms exports to China and halted delivery on contracts already signed.

The 12 European Economic Community governments today strongly condemned China for violently repressing pro-democracy crowds — but failed to announce any joint measures against Beijing.

They urged the Chinese government to stop using force against unarmed civilians.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher ruled out economic sanctions against China, saying these would victimise the Chinese population more than the government.

Some 300,000 to 350,000 troops of the People's Liberation Army are poised around Beijing, US defence officials said.

One defence official said in an interview that troops are in various positions close to the city and inside it.

Governments and business firms around the world today scrambled to get foreign nationals out of China's mayhem and bloodshed, as fears grew that the country could plunge into civil war.

The United States, Canada, West Germany, Sweden and Britain also told their citizens to pack up and go. But the US embassy in Beijing said the US government would not provide transport.

Some 100,000 protesters rallied in Taiwan's three largest cities yesterday to condemn the killings in Beijing by Chinese troops.

Share prices plunged because of concern that future trade with the mainland would suffer.

Crowds formed at Bank of China branches today to withdraw money in protest against the Chinese Army's killings.

Long lines of people were seen outside three branches and the main office of the Bank of China, owned by the Chinese government.

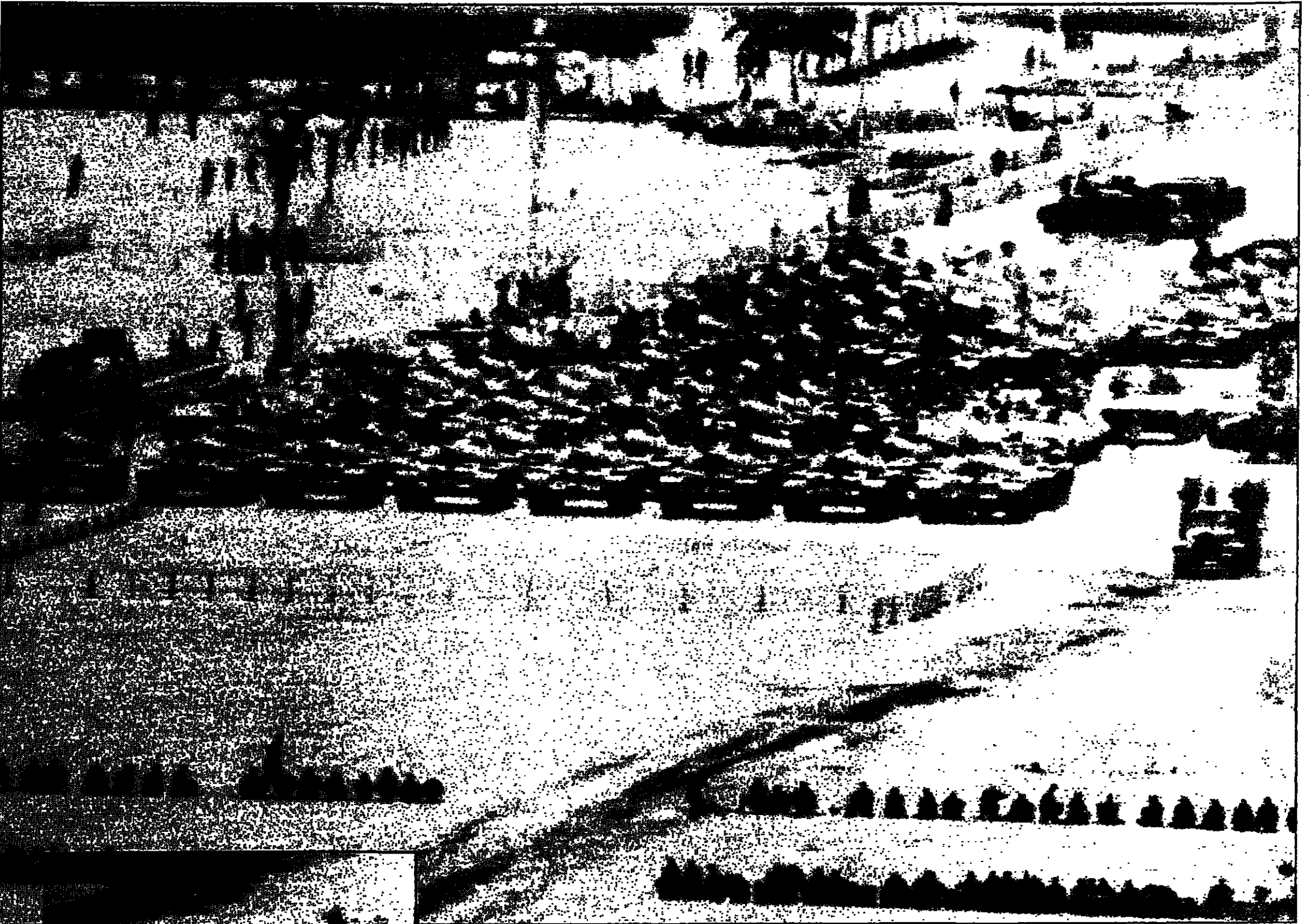
British media tycoon Robert Maxwell said yesterday he had suspended publication of his English-language edition of the official Beijing newspaper China Daily in protest over Army killings.

Rotterdam dockers refused to handle two Chinese cargo ships, a dock union spokesman said.

The morning shift at two stevedoring companies boycotted the 15,301-tonne Ping Jiang and the 13,637-tonne Yang Lin, the only two Chinese ships in port.

Taiwanese industrialists have delayed investing about \$100 million in projects in China for fear the political turmoil there will worsen, officials said today.

In UAE a score of Chinese in the 2,000-strong community circulated protest petition today, condemning the military attacks. They demanded the embassy flag fly at half-staff and vowed to campaign for wider protests.



More than a 100 tanks take up positions in Tiananmen Square on the Avenue of Eternal Peace on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Heroism and irony

As tanks thundered across Tiananmen Square crushing tents, followed by troops spraying bullets into students huddled around the base of the martyrs' monument, bystanders pressed around foreign reporters, urging them to tell the world.

"Why aren't you using your radio?" asked one man motioning to a reporter's radio telephone, which no longer worked. "You must use your radio, the world must know of this madness."

"Get on to my bike, I'll take you to a phone," said a Peking University student, close to tears as his fellow students began to fall under gunfire not 25 metres (yards) away.

When a foray with him turned up nothing but public phones with their cords cut, he thrust the bike, which represents a month's salary for most workers, at one reporter.

"Just take it, don't worry, just take it. Go and tell them," he said, well aware that the reporter was unlikely to be able to find him again to return his bicycle.

A middle-aged housewife took a break from hurling abuse at soldiers to tell a reporter that her husband was with martial law forces still stationed outside Peking.

"Bandits, bandits," she yelled shaking her fist at soldiers the other side of a barricade.

"My husband is in the Army. He came home on a two-day pass recently, and said he had strict orders not to discuss democracy, freedom, the student movement, even with his family."

She said her whole family was behind the

students. "My husband dare not disobey orders. But he is praying he won't be sent in to the capital," she said, and went back to denouncing the troops.

Nearby, a barefoot man dressed only in shorts stood with a rock in each hand, waiting to attack troops. He sidled up to a reporter and said simply: "I am a soldier."

On the eve of the assault on Tiananmen, two reporters looking for a telephone were welcomed into a brothel. A number of heavily-made-up girls in mini-skirts rushed to help them, urging them to sit down and rest.

As they were telephoning in reports of armed troops blockaded near the railway station, the girls' manager produced bowls of rice and vegetables, insisting that the reporters eat.

"You look terrible, you must eat. Tonight will be a long night," he said, pouring glucose drinks "to give you strength."

"Come back for a nice evening when this is all over," he said, refusing any payment.

The day after the Tiananmen massacre, the few passengers on a flight from Hong Kong waited for half an hour in a bus on the tarmac in streaming sunshine while ground crew ransacked the airliner for any Hong Kong newspapers carrying news of events in Peking, unreported in the Chinese media.

Not until all the ground staff had read the news-

papers did the bus move off to take passengers to the terminal.

A middle-aged lady said she refused to watch the official television news reporting on the military's efforts to quell what it described as the "counter-revolutionary riots by ruffians and hooligans."

"It's all lies. Every person in Peking is a ruffian and a hooligan. We're all against them," she said, bursting into tears.

She said that like many people, she wanted to wear a black armband to mourn those killed in the military assault on central Peking, but added: "They're shooting people wearing black armbands."

In Tiananmen Square early on Sunday morning, as the military prepared to move in to crush pro-democracy demonstrators, a middle-aged man in white shorts and slippers sat in the shadows calmly writing his impressions.

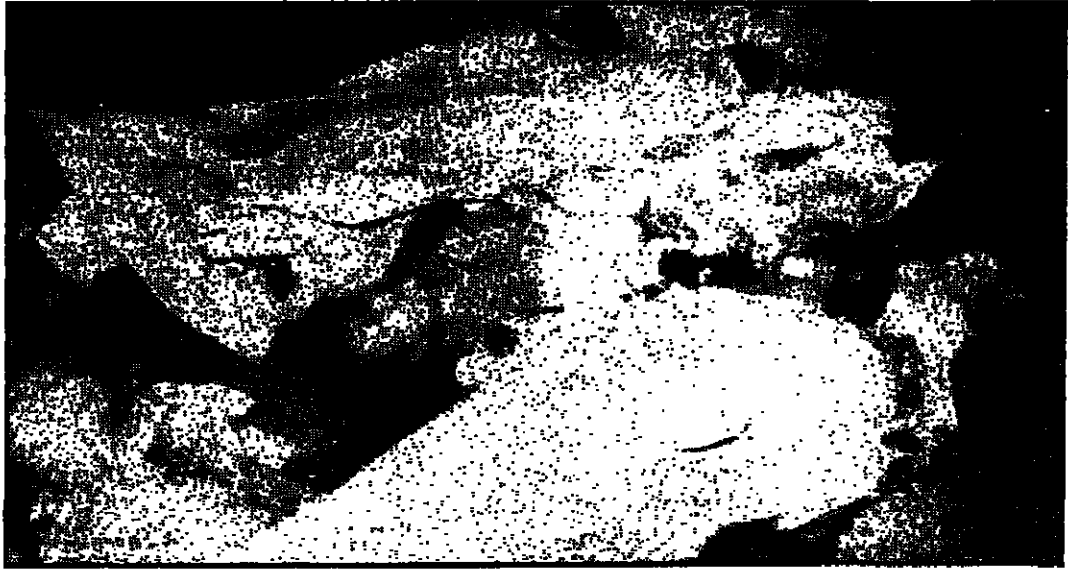
"I want to make a record of this," he said as the desperate students making their last stand around the martyrs' monument sang the Internationale and China's national anthem to bolster their courage.

"Maybe I'll publish it one day," he said. "This government will fall soon. The people will overthrow it."

Then snipers shot out the students' loudspeakers on the monument, and tanks and gunfire engulfed the square.



A Beijing citizen stands passively in front of a convoy of tanks on the Avenue of Eternal Peace. He tried to stop the convoy by talking to the driver of the tank. He was later rescued by his colleagues. (Reuter wirephoto)



Dead bodies of Beijing citizens lie in a makeshift morgue. (Reuter wirephoto)



A soldier points a gun at a citizen.



Beijing citizens face off with Chinese troops on Chang An Avenue near Tiananmen Square. (Reuter wirephoto)

EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

Explosive atmosphere makes Mississippi Burning a success

By Brian Hollis

THE 1960s were an ugly period in American history, on the home front as well as abroad. Racial violence and bigotry were brought to the fore in the Southern States, as civil rights leaders attempted to break down centuries of prejudice. *Mississippi Burning* uses the real life murders of three civil rights activists at the jumping off point for a skillfully made drama. The three young men — two white, one black — disappeared while trying to organise black voters in a small Mississippi town, and the FBI sent out two agents to find out what happened.

Ward (William Dafoe) is a humourless, by-the-book lawyer who had little patience for Anderson (Gene Hackman), his seasoned partner who is from the south, and prefers a looser form of investigation.

As they dig into the racial hatred of the backwoods town, Ward is forced to bring in more and more agents for support, and the more pressure they exert, the more the locals lean on the blacks, with violent and irrational attacks.

Director Alan Parker uses stark realism to get his message across and succeeds in creating a tense explosive atmosphere. However there are a lot of clichés in the film, starting with the well worn theme of the straight cop/rule bending cop partnership.

He even tries to send an explicit message to the audience as Anderson tells us "Anyone who allowed this to happen is guilty — maybe we're all guilty".

Pretty handy for a film which was nominated for several Oscars, and in fact more than what you would expect of 'Dirty Harry'.

Apart from Anderson, the characters are all pretty sketchy, and the leering sweating bigots are mere characters, prompting the audience to laugh and cheer as the tables are turned on them by our hero.

Still, given all this, *Mississippi Burning* will attract both sophisticated viewers due to the serious nature of the theme, and a more general audience due to the seamer, more exploitable aspects.

The other major release of this week is also a tale of two cops, but this time set in downtown L.A. 1988. *Colors* is the story of how the police department, fighting against hopeless odds, tries to bring order out of chaos among the street gangs. When it was released at cinemas last year, it generated a huge controversy over whether the movie glorified violence or condemned it. It allegedly triggered warfare of its own among L.A. teen audiences, which of course helped the film significantly at the box office.

As the film is directed by anti-establishment 'Easy Rider' Dennis Hopper, there is not really much doubt about where his sympathy lies. But whatever the controversy, *Colors* is in fact a rather old fashioned, occasionally even moralistic tale.

Sean Penn is the young impulsive cop who patrols the ghetto along with his older and more sage partner Robert Duval. The only concession Hopper makes to these gangs is that they do not have an alternative. Otherwise they are depicted as crude, moronic thugs with no past and even less future.

The sense of impending doom is everywhere — you know one of them is going to



A scene from Mississippi Burning.

get it. However apart from the violence there really isn't very much story, and although it's a good night's entertainment, in my book it doesn't rate much higher than a superior TV police drama.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Naut, Salmiya Complex, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Salmiya, Tel: 5724382.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.



Colors' Penn and Duval.

How to stay at home — and travel the world

Gail Seery

MAKIN LEARY writes travel guides for businessmen which basically build on the desire of the average business traveller to stay home. Therefore the guide's main function is to assist them to lead as close an existence as possible to the one they would lead at home. In the pages on London, the guide informs American readers where they can go to find American food exactly the same as it would be in Cleveland.

Not surprisingly given this rather ghastly outlook on life and the world in general, Makin Leary is not a very nice man. The *Accidental Tourist*, named after the guide he writes looks at his difficulty in coming to grips with the simple fact that life does not always happen as planned, and that no amount of planning can prevent the unexpected.

The year before the film opens, Leary, played by William Hurt, previously of Broadcast News fame, lost his twelve-year-old son in a violent robbery, and this has pushed him further inward. His wife complains to him

that he is "muffled about the way" he experiences things, which is no understatement.

His wife Sarah is played by Kathleen Turner. The *Accidental Tourist* isn't the usual time warp stuff she tends to be cast in, though she does manage to disappear from the film for most of the action. She's had enough of Makin, and who can blame her? She leaves, giving him ample opportunity to go to pieces. find a new woman, and along the way, get his vicious dog trained.

Mauriel, played by Geena Davis, thrusts herself into his life. She is a predatory female with legs, chest and talons for fingernails. For some reason best known to the scriptwriter she determines upon this man and goes all out to get him, aided and abetted by the dog.

Really the film is tedious. There is only so much soul searching that is bearable on the screen. Leary should perhaps be a sympathetic character, but he isn't, and the correctness of his final choice is dubious, leaving one

feeling sorry for the awkward and irritating Muriel.

On the other hand there is some superficially interesting character work, particularly in the case of Makin's sister Rose, who has stayed at home looking after her middle-aged brothers instead of doing something with her life. When she and Makin's publisher fall in love and marry, she leaves him because she is worried about her brothers, and can never find her way back to her new apartment. But however endearing or interesting this is, it's only a half-hearted attempt to lift the film, and it fizzles out completely due to a lack of commitment when Makin moves away.

No-one's life will be immeasurably impoverished if they miss this film — indeed, if you can't stand introspective films where the only motion is inside a man's brain, then it would be a wise move to give it a miss. It is not without a certain charm however, is nicely constructed, and should reward those who like this type of film.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Jahra Pharmacy
Awaf Bldg., Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Awadhi Bldg., Ahmad Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Qattan Pharmacy
Yarmouk Complex, Othman St.
Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Mishari Khaled Bldg., Baghdad St.
Fahadheel and Ahmedi
Al Ahmedi Pharmacy
Ahmedi Comm. Centre, Ahmedi
Old Khaitan
Al Ahram Pharmacy
Block 2
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrulla Bldg., Madaf St.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

MUSIC

Piano concert
JUNE 7 at 7.30 pm: Famous Turkish pianist Ms Arin Karamursel will give a performance at the Ballroom 'A' of the Kuwait Sheraton. Tickets are KD5 per person followed by a reception. For reservation contact 2422055 ext 104/107/109.

Musical evening
JUNE 9: Octave presents a grand musical evening comprising hit songs from Hindi, Malayalam and Tamil films, at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium, Funaitees at 6.30 pm.

THEATRE

Konkani Drama
JUNE 15/16 (4.00 pm): Nashibachoo Divo Paloulo, the MAR production's Konkani drama, directed by Prem Kumar will be staged at the Indian Arts Circle. For entry passes contact Raja Stores, tel: 2412970.

FILMS

British Council

JUNE 11/12: Tootsie is this month's feature film at the British Council, Mansouriya. Dustin Hoffman plays Tootsie. Desperate, he took a female role and became a star. Comedy at its best.

Also stars Sydney Pollack, who also directs, and Jessica Lange. It will be shown at 6.30 pm on both nights. Duration 112 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204.

SOCIAL

Milad mahfil
JUNE 9: Bangladesh Association will organise a Milad mahfil at 5 pm on Friday at the new Bangladesh embassy premises in Khalidiya. All Bangladeshis are cordially invited. The new address of the embassy: Plot 83, Block 1, Road 14, Building 3 (just opposite to the bus stop near the KTC garage, Shuwaikh).

Hash House Harriers
JUNE 10 (Wednesday): Kuwait Hash House Harriers will hold their 250th run and celebration dinner on Wednesday. Current and past members welcome. Tel: 5711209 after 2 pm for details.

Bangladeshi get-together
BANGLADESHI Engineers and architects in Kuwait will hold a get-together at the Hotel Plaza Ballroom on June 15 from 7.30 pm onwards. For details contact 4317145, 4718157 or 3713923.

HOTELS

At the Meridien
HOTEL Meridien Kuwait features special weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant: Asian Corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Sabah Al Khair news
9.20 Sabah Al Khair variety
9.30 Ifah Ya Simsim
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Hikayat Sakina: Arabic serial (part 5)
11.00 News summary and varieties
11.15 Al Theeb Wa Oyooun Al Madina: Arabic serial (part 5)
12.15 News summary and varieties
12.30 Circus: foreign programme
1.00 News Summary
1.05 The World News Via Satellite
1.30 Falona: cartoon serial
2.00 Variety
2.15 Abu Awwad: Arabic serial (part 5)
2.00 Mawsoot Al Sona Al Nabawiya: religious programme
3.30 Bibi Fook and Calimtro: cartoon serials
4.00 Football match
6.00 Lila min Alf Lila (Arayes): children programme
7.00 Ma's Al Talaba
8.00 Varieties
8.30 Lawhat Shabiya
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Layali Al Hilmiya: Daily Arabic serial (last part)
10.45 Mahakem Bila Sojoun: Bediun serial (Al Zayyadi), first part, starring Muna Wasaf, Mahmood Abu Ghareeb and Mohammed Al Abadi
12.00 News summary

Al Andalus
Beetle Juice
Starring: Michael Keaton, Ila Baldwin, Gina Davis
Al Salmiya
Nuts
Al Hamra
Suspect
Starring: Dennis Quaid, Cher
Drive-In
Haarar Al Habaeb (Arabic)
Starring: Yunus Shalabi, Saeed Saleh, Najwa Fuad
Al Firdous
Gunahon Ka Faiala (Hindi)
Starring: Shatrughan Sinha, Dimple Kapadia
Fahadheel Open-Air
Phir Wohi Raat (Hindi)
Raat Ke Andhere Mein Fahadheel
Arabic Film
Jahra
Revenge of the Nerds II
Granada
Arabic Film
Solahikhat
Just A Damned Soldier
Al Jebel
Street Dance
Ahmedi Drive-In
Arabic Film.



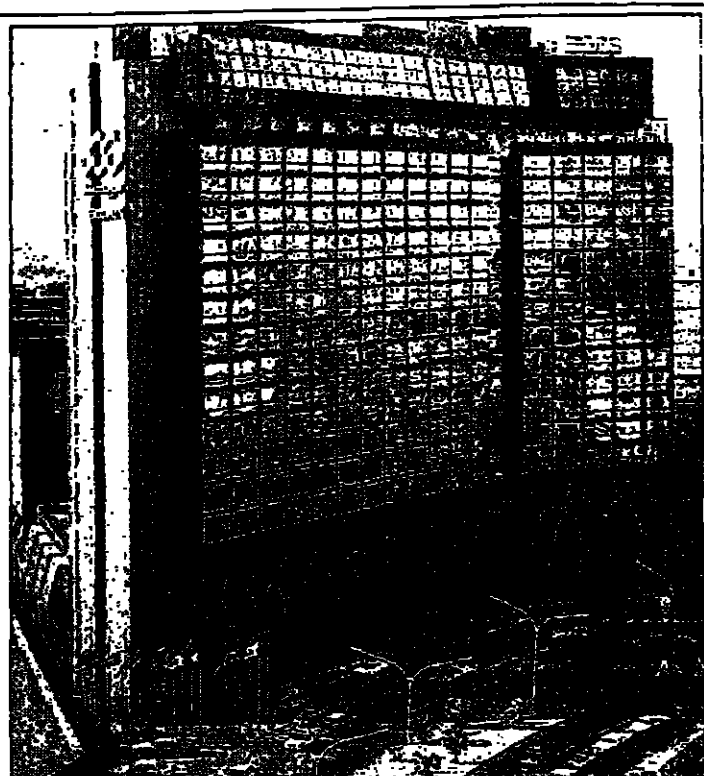
A scene from the 'Danger Bay' on KTV 2 at 7 pm today.

12.05 The World News Via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Raccoons: cartoon serial
6.30 Mac and Mutley: a look at how dogs are used in searching for people trapped under snow; and a feature on a "dog who serves guests in a restaurant."
7.00 Danger Bay: "Its Jungle in There."
7.30 Body Matters: "On Your Knees." Ton-

ight's episode examines the function of the knee in the human body.
8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law: presented by Ali Noor
8.50 Sonny Spoon: Sonny is involved in another interesting case. Action.
9.40 Bill Cosby Show: "Move It." The Huxtables try to convince their daughter to move to a new flat. Comedy.
10.00 Just for the Record: An Australian show on record holders
10.30 Late Night Movie
12.00 News Summary Magazine D'Actualite closedown



Invitation Meridien

At Meridien the latest innovation is Invitation Meridien, an invitation to a free private two nights stay at any Meridien Hotel. This invitation is extended to guests who have stayed eight times whatever the duration in at least two different Meridien hotels.

Invitation Meridien cards are available at all Meridien reception desks. For each stay, the cards are stamped by the hotel cashier when a guest checks out. Invitation Meridien also covers the guest's spouse and children, free lodging for one child under 12 years in parents room. The special promotion is from July 1 till August 31.



Meridien Hotel's Asian Corner

Meridien Kuwait Hotel presents the Asian Corner every Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes in addition to the usual buffet will be featured. Tempura 'fried noodles' etc. are prepared in front of the guest and served on the spot.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newslash
30 Omnibus
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
25 Financial News
30 Help Yourself
45 Country Style
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Tech Talk
30 Bring Your Own Popcorn
0300 World News
09 News About Britain
15 The World Today
30 Discovery
0400 Newslash
30 Business Matters
45 Country Style (ex 24th and 31st Sportsworld)

0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Financial News
40 Words of Faith
45 The World Today

0600 Newslash
30 Meridian
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Development '89

0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 Business Matters
30 Jazz Score
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Help Yourself
1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus

30 Jazz for the Asking
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Country Style
30 Meridian
1200 Newslash
15 They Made Our World
25 The Farming World
45 Sports Roundup

Urdu

1900 Opening/Holy Quran
1910 Behetereen Qaul
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Subah-e-Nau
2000 News in Urdu
2020 Songs
2040 Hidayat Rabbani
2100 Closedown

SPORTS

Recreation Centre

SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn Health Club and recreation centre. Separate ladies and mens keep fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill on Mondays at 6 to 7 pm. Also ladies aerobics and mixed aerobics with Touvi Pakasalo. Yoga and bowling alley available for company tournaments. Squash handicap tournament for all standards and squash coaching available from our squash instructors. Also tennis coaching, martial arts starting on Sunday, June 4 and on following Sundays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals. For details contact the recreation department, tel. No. 1742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.13 am
Zuhr	11.47
Asr	3.21 pm
Maghreb	6.46
Isha	8.17

At the Ramada Hotel
EL BENDAR coffee shop at the Ramada Hotel offers con-

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nepalese minister in Kuwait talks

New projects

KUWAIT, June 6, (KUNA): Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi today reviewed with his Nepalese counterpart Bharat Bahadur Pradhan programme of the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development and its contribution to Nepalese development projects and means of upgrading them.

Pradhan, who arrived here last night on a three-day visit to Kuwait, agreed to hold an enlarged meeting to examine new projects which need the fund's financial assistance and support.

The two sides also reviewed international relations and the problem of debts which Third World countries are suffering and hindering development programmes.

In this respect, Al Khorafi indicated to HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed's initiative of cancelling part or all the foreign debts and interests on Third World countries.

He pointed out that Kuwait offers assistance to developing countries on easy terms, but is not extending commercial loans to those countries' governments.

Kuwait's government has been offering loans to co-finance development projects after examining these projects and appraising their priority according to each country's needs.

The two sides agreed to refer the subject of petroleum assistance to a meeting tomorrow with senior officials of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation.

The Nepalese minister and his accompanying delegation are scheduled to leave here tomorrow evening.

The meeting was attended by Finance Undersecretary Abdul Mohsen Al Hnafi, Deputy Director-General of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development Abdulwahab Al Bader and Deputy Managing Director of Kuwait Investment Authority Badr Al Rashid.

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Pre-election lift

Economic boom gives Kohl a boost

BONN, June 6, (Reuters): The West German economic powerhouse is surging forward, cutting the number of unemployed people and giving Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government a boost ahead of European Parliament and local government elections this month.

Data released today showed growth in Europe's largest economy rose three per cent in the first quarter of this year over the last quarter of 1988, a record increase this decade.

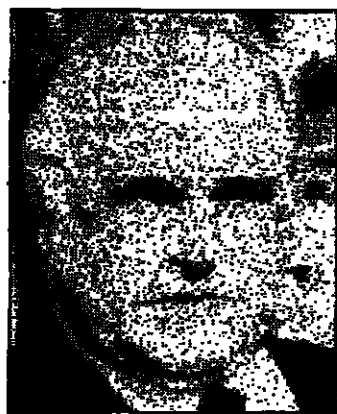
The Economics Ministry said gross national product (GNP), the total value of goods and services plus income from overseas, was boosted by mild weather early this year as well as by growth abroad as West Ger-

many's manufacturing industry notched up record sales for its high quality engineering products.

Another batch of figures today showed the number of workers without jobs fell below two million for the first time in seven years. There were 1.95 million jobless in May, or 7.6 per cent of the workforce.

"The figures come at a good time for the government ahead of the European Parliament and local elections later this month," said Jonathan Hoffman, an economist at Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd in London. The polls will be held on June 18.

Trade figures published today for April showed that in the first four months of this year West



Helmut Kohl
Germany had a trade surplus of 45.9 billion marks (\$23.2 billion), 32 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

Economists say the latest data backed their forecasts that West Germany will see a record trade surplus of 140 billion marks (\$70 billion) this year compared with 128 billion (\$64 billion) in 1988.

On Monday, Kohl predicted West German economic growth could hit four per cent this year, beating 1988's record for the decade of 3.4 per cent.

Until his statement, official forecasts for 1989 had been cautious, talking of growth at around three per cent.

The booming economy has become an important weapon for Kohl in the battle to boost his centre-right government's popularity with voters now flirting with right-wing radicals or the opposition Social Democrats.

"The four per cent growth prediction should be seen in the light of the elections he faces," said Hoffman.

The Bonn coalition suffered heavy losses to parties on the extreme right in two local elections this year.

Kohl, who has been in power since 1982, tried to revive his flagging fortunes through a cabinet reshuffle in April, naming new finance and defence ministers.

US President George Bush helped him out at last month's NATO summit with a surprise disarmament plan opening the way for East-West nuclear arms talks which the overwhelming majority of West German voters support.

China factor keeps money markets on edge

Dollar strengthens

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): The dollar ended strongly in Europe today after a nervous day dominated by the unrest in China. "It's a case of trading on the latest news and the news we are getting from China is getting progressively worse," said a currency manager at a Japanese bank in London.

"The dollar has gone from being dependent on (interest) rates to being dependent on political factors," one Frankfurt trader said.

"Right now, the major force in the market is uncertainty about the situation in China. And until things simmer down

there the dollar can't help but stay strong."

The dollar's status as a "safe haven" for investors' money in times of uncertainty helped it withstand negative factors such as a trend to lower interest rates in the United States.

Some dealers said the dollar was again headed upwards.

"Now that we've remained steady at this level, it seems probable that we all move toward two marks," one Frankfurt dealer said.

Because of the events in China, dealers said central banks were unlikely to intervene to try to stop the dollar rising.

"How are they going to fight back all these people looking for a safe haven for their money?" asked a dealer in Frankfurt.

The dollar closed in London at 1.9780 marks and 143.20 after ending Monday at 1.9642 and 141.95.

Share dealers said a strong showing on Wall Street had boosted the FTSE index by 18.9 points to end at 2,107.4.

Wall Street's Dow Jones industrial average stood 19.85 points higher at 2,500.55 by midway in New York as the market recouped over half its steep fall on Monday.

Dealers said Wall Street was

encouraged by a trend to lower interest rates in the United States.

Hong Kong stocks rebounded strongly from Monday's 21.74 per cent dive to leave the Hang Seng index 56.1 points or 2.68 per cent higher at 2,149.71.

Gold bullion eased a shade to close in London at \$365 an ounce against Monday's finish of \$366.25.

Oil prices were little changed as traders awaited news from OPEC ministers meeting in Vienna to plan output targets for the second half of 1989. North Sea Brent blend crude was quoted on spot markets around \$18 a barrel for July loading.

Call to avoid 'blind entry'

Investors urged to secure Arab food requirements

KUWAIT, June 6, (KUNA): Administrative set-up, market weakness and political instability are only a few of the factors that account for the failure of investment in Arab countries and Third World nations, according to a leading Kuwaiti economist today.

But despite the part failure of Arab-based investments, there are bright spots such as Kuwaiti investment in Tunis which stand as a model for sound investments in Arab countries, said the board chairman and managing director of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Abdul Latif Yousef Al Hamad.

Al Hamad, a former Kuwaiti Finance Minister, expressed optimism on the future of common Arab economic work following the formation of economically-oriented Arab regional groupings.

In an interview with "Kuwait Magazine", published by the Kuwait Ministry of Information, Al Hamad underlined the need for Arab investments that seek to secure Arab food requirements.

Al Hamad, who also previously served as director-general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, said despite guarantees to Arab agricultural investments, the Arab food deficit has been widening over the past 10 years.

This was mainly due to two factors, the first being agricultural mismanagement such as in Sudan and the second is rising demand for food due to population growth, he went on.

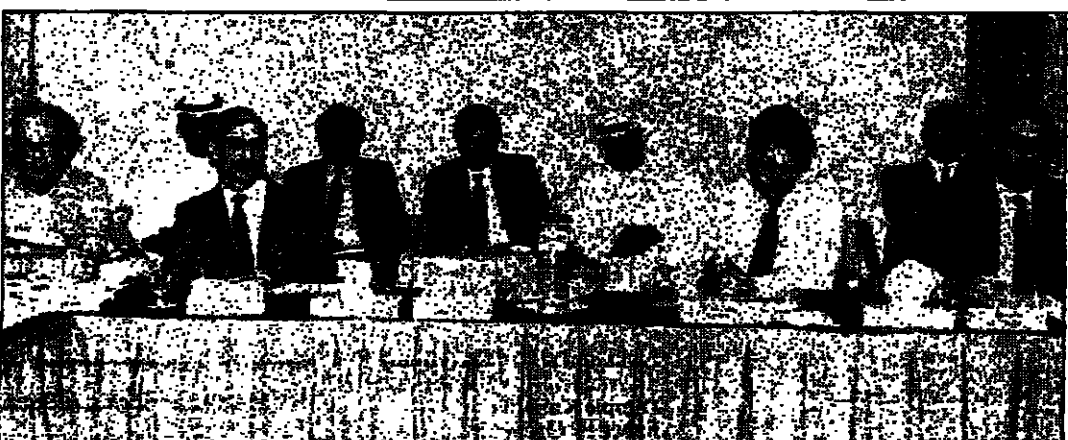
Speaking of the key to investment success, Al Hamad said international markets are being different from others in protecting investors through control commissions on exchanges and the presence of legal channels which could be approached in the outbreak of disputes.

Market flexibility and smoothness are two other marks of the international markets, the Kuwaiti economist said.

But Al Hamad cautioned Arab investors to avoid "blind entry" into international markets, saying they have to distinguish between short and long-term investments.

Al Hamad pointed out that the highly inflated controversy over Kuwait's share in British Petroleum as only one example of recurrent harassments to Arab investments in the West.

He said the government of Kuwait set a lead for coming out of the controversy with a hefty profit.



Superior customer service

Picture shows second from right is Richard Carey, general manager, participating in the conference.

THE Commercial Bank of Kuwait in co-ordination with the Institute of Banking Studies (IBS) organised a series of training programmes during the second half of May 1989. These programmes not only emphasised the great significance the bank attributes to superior service to its customers but also showed its concern for enhancing a brighter image for the bank.

The first in the programme series was a two-day conference on "Building Executive Effectiveness". It was opened by Terence L. Hewitt, general manager, Retail Banking and Administration Group, for the executives and senior managers of the bank.

Twenty-two executives and senior managers who attended this conference laid the groundwork for a series of seminars which were subsequently held at the IBS.

The executive conference mainly concentrated on the bank's organisational renewal and the strategic issues involved in it.

The second event of the series comprised of three one-day seminars entitled "Building Management

Effectiveness". These seminars were opened by Richard K.O. Carey, general manager, Treasury, Corporate and International Group.

The programme involved three groups of managers each consisting of 25 personnel. The theme of the seminars was mainly focussed on the principles and significance of Quality Customer Service.

The third and the last event in the training programmes was a two one-day seminars titled "You and the Commercial Bank of Kuwait" organised for the junior managers and clerical staff.

Approximately 420 staff members attended the seminars. It stressed the importance of the employees' positive and friendly attitude towards customers and their significant role in the emergence of a stronger and more effective Commercial Bank "The Bank for Today".

Dr Christian Buss who is the chairman, Marketing Division, State University of New York at Albany was brought in by the IBS to conduct the programmes. It demonstrated the Institute's co-operation and support to the local banks.

Dennis to manage NBK investments

LONDON, June 6, (KUNA): An influential British newspaper highlighted today that the oldest and largest commercial bank in Kuwait, the National Bank of Kuwait, with some \$12 billion on its balance sheet, has put itself firmly on the London map.

In a brief report, The Times newspaper pointed out that the bank has appointed George Dennis to manage its investments world-wide.

He is one of the most respected figures in the UK investment community, it added.

He started his work at NBK last week and he will be responsible for fund management for institutions, companies and private clients at its London and Geneva offices, the paper concluded.

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Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer enters the conference building where the OPEC ministerial meeting is held in Vienna. (Reuters wirephoto)

OPEC haunted by ...

(Continued from Page 1)

tasasmita of Indonesia and Celestino Armas of Venezuela.

They are now turning the heat on the Gulf producers by just withdrawing from the hotel suite haggling for now.

Said one neutral delegate: "If OPEC were a Viennese opera you would say the conductor and the principal musicians had walked away leaving the prima donnas to glare at each other. It's a rather tense intermission."

Armas pointedly talked of sightseeing. Kartasasmita flew off for a day to Geneva to meet Indonesian President Suharto there.

But a Gulf delegate said privately that although the situation looked rather grim he would be surprised if a deal did not emerge since no one wanted prices to crash again.

The oil market tempered slightly, but not much, its earlier optimism on an OPEC agreement. North Sea Brent blend crude oil, the international marker, eased five cents per barrel to \$18 for July loading.

But traders say any OPEC accord must at least curb the quota violations to hold prices up.

Kuwait may be the least unhappy about weaker crude oil prices since it operates a huge world refining network and has its eye chiefly on "downstream" pump prices.

Saudi Arabia, a traditional pricing "dove", now publicly advocates higher prices.

Analysts say it probably needs cash and may also hope that, if each barrel earns more revenue, OPEC tensions over the volumes that each member can pump will abate.

Quota-setting routinely causes OPEC rows.

The basic problem is that present quotas were arrived at haphazardly when, in the early 1980s, high prices killed demand for OPEC oil and its output slid from 30 to below 20 million barrels daily. Members just cut back what they were pumping then, hoping it was only a passing nightmare.

Former Saudi Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani tried in 1986 to get OPEC to agree a formal basis for quota allocation, with weightings for population, oil reserves and historic output.

But whatever way it was done, someone would have had to concede a loss of share. After three weeks, OPEC gave up.

Even now, UAE Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba says his quota is "allocated" not "official" and therefore not binding.

Last November, however, OPEC mediators led by Lukman did broker a solution to an even thornier problem than that being tackled now — Iraq's refusal to obey any quota unless it got one as big as that of former Gulf war foe Iran.

OPEC nations lifted their oil production to 21 million barrels a day in May, the highest amount so far this year, according to estimates released today.

The International Energy Agency also predicted in its monthly oil market report that demand for the organisation's oil would rise in the second half of the year to about 20.85 million barrels a day.

The agency had previously estimated demand at 20.4 million barrels a day.

Saudis make new oil strike

MANAMA, Bahrain, June 6 (AP): Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, has made a new oil find in the Khurais region southeast of the capital, Riyadh, oil industry executives said today.

Officials at the Saudi Aramco Oil Company, reached by telephone from Bahrain, confirmed the report but refused to give any details about its potential.

The company is based in the kingdom's Gulf city of Bahrain. The new find results from a large-scale high-technology exploration programme launched by Saudi Aramco in 1986, the company officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

As part of the programme, Saudi Aramco drilled a new wildcat well in the Khurais region 200 kilometres (125 miles) southeast of Riyadh.

The drillers hit a small amount of oil in what is known as the Jurassic Arab-D reservoir and had gas shows in paleozoic devonian and silurian sandstones.

Move to lure remittances

Andhra Bank tie-up with exchange firm

A.M. Zalzaleh, chairman of Kuwait Bahrain International Exchange Company and A.T. Akolkar, executive director of Andhra Bank signed an agreement yesterday at the Indian embassy for the drawing of Indian rupees.

Andhra Bank, a nationalised bank of India having 900 branches in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa is entering into such arrangement for the first time with an exchange company abroad with a view to attract the remittances of expatriates through proper banking services.

The tie-up is significant because this is, perhaps the first tie-up allowed by the Reserve Bank of India after banning such arrangements some time ago.

The ban had come about following the failure of quite a few of these exchange companies which had links with Indian banks.

Some of the Indian banks are even said to have incurred losses in their operations as RBI has no efficient mechanism to monitor the operations of these companies.

It has been a long-standing practice of many Indian banks to have links with exchange companies in West Asia and allow smooth flow of the savings of the expatriates to their families in India.

The exchange companies are some times managed by the personnel provided by the Indian banks or these banks merely have ties with these companies depending on the expertise available with the companies.

The tie-up of Andhra Bank with the Kuwaiti company falls in the second category.

The renewal of tie-up with exchange companies in West Asia after a gap seems to indicate that the Reserve Bank is screening the tie-up carefully even as it wants such tie-up.

The presence of exchange companies in the whole chain is unavoidable as the Indian banks are not able to open branches or offices in West Asian countries as they want them to cater to the needs of the expatriates.

The other alternative is to have tie-up with local exchange companies and enable them to draw rupee drafts on the branches of the Indian banks tied with the companies.

These Indian banks have the further advantage of mobilising funds in foreign currencies as the savings of the expatriates are deposited in banks abroad as designated by the Indian banks. In turn, the Indian banks provide the remitted funds to Indian recipients in Indian rupees.

Andhra Bank tying up with an exchange company in West Asia is apt as Andhra Pradesh is one of the few Indian states generating the largest number of expatriates working in West Asia.

In fact, banking sources say, it should have had such a tie-up much earlier as it has the largest network of branches in the state thereby being able to reach the largest number of expatriates' families in the state.



The Undersecretary at the Ministry, Mr. Nasser Mohammad Al Roomi (right) and chairman of the company, Mr. Abdul Mohsen Bader Al Khorafi, sign the contract.



From right to left: The Undersecretary at the Ministry of Justice, Mr. Nasser Mohammad Al Roomi, Mr. Abdul Mohsen Al Khorafi, Mr. Nisar Memon, Mr. Souhbi Chebib and Mr. Claes Brockman from Al Khorafi Co.

COMPUTER CONTRACT

The Ministry of Justice has signed a contract for the supply and installation of an IBM 4381 Model 91E. This computer will be running IBM's most advanced operating system MVS/ESA. The ministry will be the first government user to take advantage of this latest technology.

The contract was signed by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Justice Mr Nasser Mohammed Al Roomi and by Mr Abdul Mohsen Badr Al Khorafi, Chairman of Khorafi's Co.s.

The system will contribute to the current steps undertaken by the Ministry of Justice to develop and enhance its administrative operation and services.

The Ministry of Justice has selected IBM due to its world-wide leadership in information technology.



From left to right: The Undersecretary at the Ministry, Nasser Mohammad Al Roomi, Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs, Mr. Mushari Al Mutairi, Director of Financial Affairs, Salah Al Bin Ali and Director of Information Centre, Mohammad Hamad Al Roomi.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 1989

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	228/0
ABBEY LIFE	273/0	253.0
ADT LTD	182.0	346/0
ALD LYONS	434.0	296/0
AMSTRAD	95/0	586.0
ARGYLL GP	205/0	567.0
ASDA GP	171/0	430/0
BAA	354.0	462.0
BTR	362/0	311.0
BAT INDS	592/0	272.0
BARCLAYS	445.0	629/0
BASS	935.0	281/0
BEAVERS	193.8	185/0
BEECHAM	610/0	200/0
BERSFORD	148.0	162.0
BICC PLC	510.0	565/0
BLUE ARROW	94.50	303.0
BLUE CHIEF	553.0	651/0
BOC GP	480/0	446.0
BOOTS CO	284/0	272.0
BPP INDS	236/0	281/0
BR COMM	176/0	228/0
BR AIRWAY	195/0	253.0
BR AEROSP	692/0	462.0
BR GAS RG	175/0	311.0
BR LAND	356/0	272.0
B.P.	289/0	629/0
BR STEEL	88/4	281/0
BR TELCOM	255/0	200/0
CALOR GRP	143.0	162.0
CALSON	845.0	303.0
COATS VVI	161.0	446.0
COOKSONS	325/0	281/0
COURTAULD	329/0	200/0
DALGETY	362.0	162.0
DIXONS	147.5	303.0
ENG CHINA	467/0	253.0
ENTER OIL	538.0	462.0
FBI BABCO	168/0	311.0
FERRANTI	97.4	281/0
FISONS	302/6	200/0
GATEWAY	205/0	253.0
GEN ACCID	943/0	462.0
GEN ELEC	235.0	303.0
GLAXO	356/0	281/0
GRANADA	340/0	200/0
GLOBE	174.0	162.0
GLYNED	291/0	253.0
GUARD RYL	203/0	462.0
GNIL	397/0	281/0
GUINNESS	487/0	200/0
HARRISON A	778/0	253.0
HARRISON B	198.0	462.0
HARRISON C	172.0	303.0
HARKE SID	700/0	281/0
HILLSDOWN	274/0	200/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	920/0	919/0
600 GROUP	126/0	126/0
A.AMER TS	447/0	446/0
A.S.ELECT	383/0	383/0
A.S.V.HLD	278/0	278/0
AAH HLD	114/0	113/0
AARONSON	102/0	102/0
ADDISON	44/4	44/4
ADVEST	177/0	178/0
ALEX WRKW	200/0	200/0
ALEXON	382/0	381/0
ALLD COLL	146/0	147/0
ALLD IR B	154/0	155/0
ALLD IR N	154/0	155/0
ALLD LON	146/0	146/0
ALLD PART	71/4	72/0
ALLD TEXT	380/0	380/0
ALLANCE	042/0	042/0
AMBER DAY	49/4	49/4
AMEC	478/0	478/0
AMER TST	150/0	150/0
AMERSHAM	483/0	484/0
AMT HLTHC	362/0	362/0
ANGLIA SC	233/0	233/0
ANGLIA TV	278/0	277/0
ANSBACHER	76/0	76/0
APPLYARD	175/0	175/0
APV PLC	146/0	147/0
ASHLEY-LA	103/0	103/0
AUS REE A	247/0	247/0
AUS REE S	289/0	289/0
AVESCO	149/0	149/0
AVIS EUR	406/0	405/0
AVON RUBB	594/0	592/0
B.WEMILL	256/0	256/0
BAILL JAP	506/0	507/0
BAILL SHI	92/0	92/0
BALFOUR	261/0	261/0
BANK IRE	290/0	290/0
BANKER IT	89/4	89/0
BARDON GP	200/0	201/0
BART DEV	188/0	187/0
BAYNES C	34/0	35/0
BBA GROUP	197/0	197/0
BEAR BRND	11/6	11/6
BEATTIE J	146/0	146/0
BELHAVEN	52/0	52/0
BELWAY	247/0	246/0
BENROSE	241/0	241/0
BENLOX HD	61/0	61/0
BERKELEY	202/0	202/0
BHR GROUP	129/0	129/0
BK OF SCO	90/0	90/0
BLACK LE 2	9/6	9/4
BH GROUP	487/0	488/0
BH GROUP	86/0	86/0
BOATMAN	368/0	368/0
BOODINGTN	163/0	163/0

BOOD SHOP	588/0	588/0
BOOT HENR	505/0	505/0
BORTHWICK	38/0	38/0
BR ARROW	114/0	113/0
BR ASSETS	77/0	77/0
BR DREDGI	173/0	174/0
BR VITA	264/0	263/0
BRENT MCR	147/0	146/0
BRENT MCR	385/0	385/0
BRIDON	200/0	200/0
BRITANNIC	166/0	166/0
BRITANNIC	395/0	394/0
BRIXTON E	383/0	381/0
BRN & JAC	41/4	41/0
BROWN SHI	351/0	350/0
BRYANT GP	104/0	103/0
BSG INTL	71/4	72/0
BSR INTL	52/0	50/0
BUDGENS	108/0	108/0
BULLDOUGH	189/0	189/0
BULMER HP	169/0	170/0
CALDOR GRP	499/0	500/0
CALENDONIA	364/0	360/0
CAMB ELEC	208/0	208/0
CANFOR D	273/0	274/0
CANNING W	265/0	264/0
CANNON ST	208/0	208/0
CAP RADIO	818/0	817/0
CARADON	341/0	339/0
CARLCO EN	154/0	153/0
CATTLE HD	73/0	73/0
CAULDON	14/0	14/0
CENTL IT	776/0	775/0
CHAM PHIR	214/0	213/0
CHARTERNA	21/6	21/6
CHLORIDE	39/0	38/0
CHRISTIES	255/0	252/0
CI GROUP	53/0	53/0
CLAYFORD	297.0	293.0
CNTRL SEC	60/4	61/0
CNTRY OIL	180/0	180/0
COALITE	439/0	436/0
COATES BR	281/0	280/0
COLOROLL	156/0	156/0
CONNELLS	231/0	230/0
COOPER F	140/0	140/0
COSTAIN	333/0	333/0
COURTS FR	194/0	193/0
COURT (T)	146/0	146/0
CRH	190/0	190/0
CRODA INT	195/0	196/0
CRYSTALAT	127/0	128/0
CTRY PROF	216/0	218/0
DARES EST	31/0	30/6
DAVIS GLO	161/0	161/0
DAVY CORP	231/4	232/0
DAWSON GP	132/0	135/0
DELTA GRP	318/0	318/0
DEVERSH	306/0	305/0
DEWHIRST	43/0	43/0
DIPLOMA	217/0	217/0
DORSON PK	97/4	97/4
DOWPAC GR	356/0	356/0
DUNDEE LDR	77/0	77/0
DUNDEE LDR	260/0	260/0
DRAYTON FC	530/0	530/0
DRAYTON FC	492/0	488/0
DRUG	74/0	74/0
DUKEMSTR	327/0	327/0
DUNNILL	318/0	318/0
EAGLE TST	17/4	18/0
EDIN I.T	191/4	191/4
EDMOND HD	42/4	42/4
ELECTRA	287/0	287/0
ELECTROM	195/0	195/0
ENAP	239/0	238/0
ENESS	133/0	134/0
EMPIRE ST	177/0	177/0
ENG. INT. J	304/0	303/0
ETAN	178/0	178/0
EURO HOME	176/0	177/0
EUROHOME	291/0	290/0
EURLINT UT	164/0	163/0
EVRDGR GP	90/0	89/4
EX CO. LOU	170/0	178/0
EXPANET	227/0	225/0
FEC ENTER	33/4	33/4
FEC EURO	288/0	288/0
FEC PACIF	159/0	161/0
FEC SHILLR	80/0	80/0
FARNELL E	166/0	165/0
FED. HOUSN	176/0	176/0
FENNER JR	197/0	178/0
FLNG MERC	210/0	210/0
FLNG TECH	190/0	190/0
FRIDLY NO	282/0	280/0
FRIDLY NO	282/0	280/0
GALLIFORD	97/0	98/0
GARDINER	56/0	56/0
GEEST	270/0	270/0
GEI INTL	138/0	138/0
GERRODATT	255/0	255/0
GESTETNER	277/0	275/0
GOODE DUR	126/0	125/0
GP	40/0	40/0
GRANPH HD	219/0	219/0
GREEN KIL	508/0	508/0
GREENL W	278/0	278/0
GREYCAT	472/0	471/0
GRNP TV A	70/0	70/0
GT PRTLND	364/0	363/0
GUS ORD	613/0	600/0
GVTT ORIE	364/0	364/0
GVTT STRA	258/0	258/0
H.LND DIS	213/0	214/0
HALMA	218/0	217/0
HANMERSON	820/0	820/0
HAVTHIN LE	71/0	71/0
HAZELWOOD	262/0	261/0
HEATHCOTE	480/0	482/0
HELENE P	31/4	31/4
HELICAL B	332/0	332/0

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International Bond Highlights

LONDON: Bat International Finance PLC is issuing a 400 mln df five year 9-3/8 pct Eurobond priced at 101-5/8 pct, lead manager Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd said.

LONDON: Nippon Sheet Glass Co Ltd is issuing a 250 mln dfr equity warrant bond due June 22, 1993 with an indicated coupon of 4-3/8 pct and par pricing, lead manager Daiwa Europe Ltd said.

LONDON: Omron Tateisi Electronics Co is issuing a 250 mln dfr equity warrant bond due June 22, 1993 priced at par and paying an interest coupon of 4-3/8 pct, lead manager Nomura International PLC said.

LONDON: Nippon Oil and Fats Co Ltd is issuing a 100 mln Swiss franc four year, equity warrant Eurobond with a coupon indicated at 4-1/2 pct, lead manager Yamashita International (Europe) Ltd said.

Frankfurt: London and Edinburgh Trust European Finance BV Amsterdam, is issuing a 100 mln mark seven-year Eurobond with a 7-1/2 pct coupon priced at 99-3/4, lead manager Berliner Handels Und Frankfurt (BHF) said.

Zurich: Nippon Light Metal Co Ltd is issuing 200 mln Swiss francs in convertible notes with an indicated coupon of zero pct and par pricing, lead manager Credit Suisse SA said.

Zurich: The World Bank is issuing a 100 mln Swiss franc, 15-year straight bond with a 6-1/8 pct coupon and priced at 101-3/4 pct, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp said.

Zurich: Danish construction company Great Belt AS is issuing a 100 mln Swiss franc, six pct, 10-year bullet bond priced at 101-1/8 pct, lead manager Shearson Lehman Hutton Finance SA said.

[illegible]

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
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REG.	207.5	209.8
ALANZ VR	1782.0	1780.0
DEWERNER	316.0	315.0
BASF	310.0	313.4
BAYER	308.37	311.3
BAYER HYP	38.35	38.35
BAYER VER	381.0	384.0
BBC	440.0	440.0
BHF	448.0	452.0
BMW	571.5	575.0
COMMER7BK	237.0	240.5
CONTI GUHM	283.7	286.9
DATMER BEN	682.5	686.0
DEUTSCH BNK	547.0	552.0
DOLZ	543.0	545.0
DRESNER B	322.5	324.0
DR. BARCOEC	170.2	170.5
FAZ-INDEX	589.9	595.49
FELDMUEHL	354.0	354.0
GOLDSCHMID	402.5	405.0
GRUENESMER	453.0	453.0
INTECH	318.8	316.0
MOECHER	266.0	262.0
HORTEN	248.0	245.5
HUSSEL HIL	574.0	575.0
KALZ SALZ	200.5	204.6
KARSTADT	533.5	527.5
KAUFHOFF	477.0	480.0
KLOCKE H	172.0	165.0
KLOCKE W	160.0	163.0
LINDE	726.0	729.0
LUFTHANSA	185.0	185.5
MANNHESMAN	300.8	300.9
MERCEDES	245.0	244.5
METALLGLS	537.5	543.0
NORDKORF P	422.0	418.5
NORSK HYD	310.0	301.2
PHILIP KOM	45.0	45.20
PORESCA	568.5	569.0
PORESCA	760.0	761.0
PREUSSAG	275.5	281.0
RWA	292.0	291.0
RIEHNMETAL	418.0	424.0
ROUVE	290.0	290.0
SARVE	256.0	257.8
SALAMANDER	364.0	361.7
SCHERING	671.0	669.0
SEL	309.0	307.5
STIEHMEN	547.8	549.5
THYSENEN	252.0	252.2
VERBA	366.0	368.0
WARTA	295.1	297.0
WEL	186.0	193.0
WOLFSKAGEN	394.0	395.0

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE
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ANKAY	12.10	12.20
CATH	8.00	7.70
CHANGDISH	6.50	222
CELEUNG K	5.60	6.35
CHINA L-P	11.10	11.10
CHAIY FARM	570	560
EVERGO IND	1.37	1.29
FT EAGLE	0	0
S INDEX	149.71	93.61
IAECO	14	14
JIANG LUNG	3.15	3.02
JENDERSON	3.22	3.15
K BANK	5.15	4.95
K ELEC	6.35	6.55
K GAS	14.00	13.80
K LAND	6.90	7.00
K TELECOM	4.32	3.80
K-S HOTEL	3.80	3.80
KOPEWELL	1.56	1.52
IS BANK	19.10	19.00
KUTCHINSON	7.10	6.80
MYSAN DEV	1.01	95
RATH MATH	16.00	14.30
SH	9.40	8.30
SI BUS	5.90	6.40
AI SUN	83	75
WANDARI O	0	0
TRAMAR	4.50	4.55
EV WORLD	7.30	7.20
AUL Y CON	.61	.65
KH PROP	7.65	7.35
TELUX	1.50	1.50
WIRE A	13.70	13.20
AI CHEUNG	2.72	2.67
V-B	.82	.80
HARF	7.15	6.90
INSOR	6.70	6.35
INDO INTL	2.80	2.40

STOCK	LAST PR-CLSE	MITSD
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AJINOMOTO	2690	2680	NITSU
AICAL ELEC	795	820	NITSU
AOKI	1370	1360	NITSU
ASAHI GLS	2320	2250	NITSU
ASAHI OPT	921	957	NITSU
BANK TOKYO	1480	1630	NICH
BRIDGESTO	1620	1610	NICH
CANON	1850	1860	NIKKO
CASIO COMP	1430	1460	NIP
CHUGAI PHM	1730	1720	NIP
CITIZEN W	1140	1170	NIP
D-ICHI KAN	3320	3350	NIP
DAI NIP IK	895	900	NIP
DAI NIP PT	2360	2380	NIS K
DAI NIP SC	1200	1220	NOMURA
DAI NIP TO	970	980	ONBA
DALCE	1680	1630	OLYMP
DALMECH	2130	2150	PENTA
DAIWA SEC	2090	2070	PIONEER
EBRA MFG	2270	2310	RENOVA
EISAI	1990	1980	SANICHI
FUITSU	1530	1570	SANKY
FUJI BANK	3490	3450	SAIYU
FUJI PHOTO	4000	4020	SEIYU
FUJISAMA	1720	1720	SEKISU
FUJITA CP	1840	1840	SHARPS
HITACHI	1610	1650	SHISEI
HONDA MOT	1610	1690	SOHY
ISETAN	2500	2530	SUNSH
ITO YOKADO	3230	3850	TAISEI
JAP SYN RU	1210	1190	TAISHI
JAPAN ATR	16700	16600	TAKEUCHI
JAPAN MET	1020	1050	TEIJIJI
KAJIHA	2080	2050	TOKIO
KANSAI EL	4600	4540	TOKIO
KAO SOAP	1700	1700	TOKYO
KAWASAKI H	1120	1110	TOKYO
KAWASAKI S	970	961	TOKYO
KIRIN BREW	1950	1950	TORAY
KOMATSU	1240	1260	TOSH
KUBATO LTD	1260	1220	TOTO
KYOCERA	5300	5320	TOYOT
NAKITA EL	1830	1870	TOYOT
NARUI	2760	2810	YAMAHATA
MATSUTA EI	2420	2440	YAMAHA
MATSUTA EL	0	2660	YAMAHA
MEIJI SEIK	1120	1120	YAMAHA

OSAKA STOCKS CLOSE MIXED IN LIGHT TRADING

TOKYO, JUNE 6, REUTER - INVESTORS LOOKING FOR BARGAINS AND
 AMPING ON THEMES ALSO HAS RESCUED THE LANGUISHING MARKET, BUT
 UNCERTAINTY RESULTING FROM UNREST IN CHINA AND THE WEAKER YEN
 DIMINISHED THE OPTIMISM. PRICES CLOSED MIXED IN LIGHT TRADE
 AFTER FALLING IN THE MORNING AND RISING IN THE AFTERNOON.
 "THERE WAS SOME BUYING TODAY, BUT THERE WAS NO TRUE
 STRENGTH IN THE MARKET," SAID TAKAHIDE FURUHASHI, ANALYST FOR
 CAPITAL MARKETS (ASIA). "VOLUME WAS TOO THIN AND GENERAL
 SELLING PRESSURE TOO GREAT." THE 225-SHARE NIKKEI INDEX EASED
 47.07 POINTS TO CLOSE AT 35,452.01 AFTER DROPPING 210.34 POINTS
 ON MONDAY. CORRECTS DAY TO 35,452.01 (FROM 35,452.01 MONDAY).
 TUREX, DOWN 1.50 TO 350.00, SHARED AGAINST 450 HLU ON MONDAY.
 A NEGATIVE ATMOSPHERE LINGERS, BUT A BRIGHTER OUTLOOK IS
 IN SIGHT," SAID KOKUSAI SECURITIES ANALYST TADAYASU HASEGAWA.
 THE TURMOIL IN CHINA DEPRESSED ASIAN MARKETS ON MONDAY AND
 BROKE PRICES IN LONDON AND NEW YORK OVERNIGHT. IT BROUGHT THE
 NIKKEI DOWN 209.37 POINTS TO THE DAY'S LOW OF 33,247.73
 SHORTLY AFTER THE OPENING.
 CONSTRUCTION, PULP/PAPER AND CHEMICAL STOCKS, SEEN AS GOOD
 BUYS, LED THE MARKET UP 117.28 POINTS TO A HIGH OF 33,574.36
 EARLY IN THE AFTERNOON AS INVESTORS JUMPED IN ON THEIR SUDDEN
 POPULARITY, BROKERS SAID.
 THE FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, SLIPPED 3.99 POINTS TO
 482.58 AFTER A 14.99-POINT DROP ON MONDAY.
 SOME INDEX-LINKED BUYING BY INVESTMENT TRUST FUNDS WAS
 ENOUGH TO BOOST PRICES EARLIER IN THE DAY, BUT INDIVIDUALS WERE
 THE MAJOR PLAYERS, BROKERS SAID.
 "EVEN THE INDIVIDUALS WEREN'T VERY ACTIVE," KOKUSAI'S
 HASEGAWA SAID. "IT WAS THE KIND OF MARKET TODAY WHERE PRICES
 WENT UP AND THEN RETURN BECAUSE THE VOLUME IS SO LIGHT."
 FALLS LED RISES BY ABOUT EIGHT TO FIVE, WITH 556 ISSUES
 RISING, 335 LOWER AND 192 UNCHANGED.

HONG KONG, JUNE 6, REUTER - HONG KONG STOCKS STAGED A
HONG REBOUND IN ACTIVE TRADING DOMINATED BY DEVELOPMENTS AND
HOURS SURROUNDING THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

THE HANG SENG INDEX CLOSED 56.1 POINTS OR 2.68 PCT HIGHER
2,149.71, RECOVERING A FRACTION OF THE PREVIOUS PLUNGE OF 21.74
FOLLOWING A WEEKEND OF SPECULATIVE TRADING IN PEKING.

THE GOT A LOT OF TECHNICAL REBOUND ON SHORT-COVERING AND
RAGUJUN LUNGS WHEN RUMOURS SPREAD THAT CHINA'S HARDLINE
RESIDENT YANG SHANGKUN, COULD BE ON THE WAY OUT," SAID

WILPHIL NIEN, RESEARCH DIRECTOR AT HOARE GOVETT. NONE OF THE
RUMOURS THAT PROPELLED TRADING COULD BE CONFIRMED.

	OPMG	CLSG	JOR NATIONAL BANK		
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY			JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	3.70	3.70
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.			JOR PHOSPHATE MINS		
ARAB BANK			JOR PIPES MANUFAC		
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER			JOR PRESS/PUBLIS.	1.79	1.72
ARAB FINANCE CORP.			JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.25
ARAB INSURANCE			JOR ROCK WOOL IND.		
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.			JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
ARAB INT.UNION TNS	1.11	1.16	JOR SELPHO CHEM.		
ARAB INTER. HOTELS			JOR WOOD INDUSTRY		
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.37	2.37	JOR WORSTED MLL		
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD			JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.91	0.91
ARAB PHARMA.MNF.			JOR. PETROLIUM REF		
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM			JOR.FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JOR.INV.FIN.COR		
BANK OF JORDAN			JORDAN GULF REAL	0.34	0.34
BEIT AL-HAL/BEITNA	1.03	1.01	JORDAN DAIRY		
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN GULF BANK		
CAIRO AMMAN BANK			JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN INSURANCE		
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS			JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK		
DAR ALDAHA DV/INV.			JORDAN KUWAIT BANK		
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.			LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.71	0.71
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71	MACH/EOU/RENT/MAIN	0.80	0.79
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.60	4.60	MAJ INDUSTRIES	0.73	0.73
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.17	1.11
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25	MIDDEL EAST HOTEL		
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10	MIDDEL EAST INS	2.02	2.00
HIMEL MINERALS	0.75	0.75	MINERALS RESEARCH	2.75	2.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	NAT.FIN.INVEST CO	1.86	1.85
IND./MATCH JEMCO			NAT/CABEL/INVE/MF		
INDSTR DEVLPT BNK	1.70	1.70	NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.38	1.38
INDSTR/COMH/AGR.			NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.97	0.96
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO		
INTER.COM/INV.	0.13	0.13	NATIONAL STEEL		
IRABID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.85	ORABAT BATTERY	0.25	0.28
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	PETRA BANK		
ITERMED/PETRI/CH			PETRA JOR.INS.	0.35	0.35
JOR TOWNS-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.25	1.25
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	PRECAST CONCRETE		
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.50	19.50	RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	1.91	1.91
JOR CERGAL FACTOR			REAL ESTATE INV.		
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05	SHIPPING LINES		
JOR ELECTRIC POWER			SHIPPING VESLY		
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22	THE HOUSING BANK	1.88	1.85
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY			UNITED INSURANCE	1.21	1.22
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.18	UNIVERSAL CHEM.IND		
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.58	2.50	UNIVERSAL INS.	0.65	0.68
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	VEH INDUSTRIES	0.85	0.85
			YAKHOUK INSURANCE	1.35	1.35

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	81.50	82.00	82.00
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	.28	.29	.29
AC-A	22.25	22.50	22.25	LC-B	.28	.29	.29
AMS	4.00	4.05	4.00	PK-A	.29	.30	.30
PLT	33.00	33.50	33.50	PK-B	.30	.31	.30
KPSI-A	3.90	29.00	28.50	OIL SECTOR			
GLD	28.50	33.50	33.50	BP-A	.014	.015	.014
SNC-A	242.00	243.00	244.00	BP-B	.014	.015	.015
SNC-B	330.00	350.00		LR-A	.0042	.0044	.0044
MINING SECTOR				LR-B	.004	.0044	
APX-A	.017	.018	.018	OPM-A	.045	.046	.045
APX-B	.018	.019	.018	OPM-B	.046	.047	
AT-A	38.50	39.00	39.50	OPV-A	.046	.047	.046
				OPV-B	.047	.049	.048

OFFICIAL INFORMATION		VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
SECTOR	SHARES			
C/I	601,090	10,935,732.50	1,242.92	18.69 DN
MINING	185,515,600	6,736,075.00	5,118.88	112.83 DN
OIL	370,500,000	8,354,840.50	7,118.71	0.089 DN
TOTAL	556,616,690	26,005,847.50	1,016.18	16.14 DN

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL				SECTOR			
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	BC-A *	81.50	82.00	82.50
SNC-A	243.00	250.00	248.00	BC-B * <td>84.00</td> <td>89.00</td> <td></td>	84.00	89.00	
SNC-B		345.00		LC-A	.028	.029	.28
PLDT	327.50	330.00	337.50	LC-B	.28	.29	.29
ANS-A	4.00	4.05	4.05	ZIP	.011	.013	
ANS-B	4.30	4.40	4.30	OIL SECTOR			
AC-A	22.25	22.50	22.50	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN
GLO	29.00	29.50	29.00	BP-A	.014	.015	.014
FER-A	2.22	2.30	2.22	BP-B	.014	.015	.015
FER-B		2.46	2.46	LRC-A	.0062	.0044	.0044
MINING SECTOR				LRC-B	.0044	.0046	
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	OPM-A	.044	.045	.044
APX-A	.017	.018	.018	OPM-B	.046	.048	
APX-B	.018	.019		OV-A	.046	.047	.046
AT-A	38.00	38.50	40.00	OV-B	.048	.049	.049
AT-B	38.50	39.00	44.00	TA	.025	.026	.025

SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	1,795,080	41,502,130	1246.37	D 13.52
MINING	375,473,100	19,012,550	4770.02	D 89.12
OILS	421,450,000	6,439,750	7.510	W 0.159
TOTAL	798,718,180	66,954,430	1015.07	N 16.10

ADEF A		G LUMBER	150	160	KILLINGRA	354
ADEF B		G TOWN		92	N CEMENT	184 193
AJINOMOTO		G U HDLGS	----	102	N CONT	137 145
ANAL IND	137	GANDA HD	44	48.5	N FEEDMIL	---- 34
ANAL PROP	29.5	GEN CORP	77	79.5	N FLOUR	310
ARCOL	147	131 GENTING	550	570	N GLASS	282 299
BERJAYA	147	158 GSD		142	N TIN PRT	---- 83
CAMPBELL	142	144 GSH		200	N UTD IND	226 233
CASPERG	570	580 GINNESS	370	374	N UTD MFG	113
CCN		530 GITHA		28.5	N WAT	715 756
CEREBOIS	535	545 H L IND.	244	247	N WATA	142
CHEM IND	324	324 HARILAU	119	120	NALEX IND	580
CK TAKG	430	456 HAU PAR	297	310	METRO	790 810
COLO STOR	346	350 NEXA	75.5	77	MULPHALIND	43.9 5
CS HDLGS	44.5	47 INNO-PACT	130	136	MULTIPURP	89 94
DKH	510	510 INNOVEST	102	111	N ST TIME	360 356
DNLB BHD	140	140 INSAS	38.5	40	NB TIMBER	95 98
DUTA CON	----	29 INT WOOD	----	76	PERLIS	585 600
DUTCHBARY		422 ISETAN	705	705	ROTH IND	193 195
ELEC MAGN	198	204 J SHYPARD	570	590	ROTHMAN N	740 735
ESSO ORD	348	350 JACKS LTD	133	150	S PACIFIC	364
EYUAN S.		250 JC ENT	----	125	S PRESS	745 790
F A C B	29.5	31 JC-MPH	115	120	S PRESS F	785 790
F E SHIP	336	350 JORAN HD	41.5	42	S SHIP	632 450
FBN ORD	960	985 K G HDLGS		112	S WANG N	177 183
FEB CABLE	----	6 K KELLAS		220	SAMANDA	150 160
FED FLOUR		520 KAMUNGT			SATERAS	50 50
FINA BHD	310	310 KAMUNTING	86.5	86	SIA	1290 1350
FUJITEC	656	KE SANG		100	STEAM MAR	133 138

SINGAPORE STOCKS RECORD BIGGEST 1989 ONE-DAY LOSS

SINGAPORE, JUNE 6, REUTER - SHARE PRICES RECORDED THEIR BIGGEST SINGLE-DAY LOSS THIS YEAR, FALLING SHARPLY ACROSS THE BOARD ON CONTINUED SELLING BY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS AND SMALL INVESTORS, BROKERS SAID.

THE STRAITS TIMES INDUSTRIAL INDEX PLUNGED 38.24 POINTS TO CLOSE AT 1,233.13. IT LOST 33.84 POINTS ON MONDAY.

BROKERS SAID SELLERS DOMINATED THE MARKET FROM THE OUTSET AS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS CONTINUED TO LIQUIDATE THEIR HOLDINGS TO MEET MARGIN CALLS IN HONG KONG. RUMOURS ABOUT DEATHS OF SOME TOP CHINESE LEADERS STRENGTHENED THE SELLING PRESSURE.

[illegible]

AGRI. FOOD PRD	0.150	----	----	----	----	----
NON-KWT SECTOR						
-BHN. INTER. BK	0.063	0.063	0.063	0.063	160000	2
-BHN. M. EAST. BK	0.047					
-COAST INVEST.	0.082					
-A.G. INV. GRP.	0.031					
-FIRST. GULF BK	0.550	0.850	0.850	0.850	5000	1
-BHN. KUN. GRP	0.078					
-GULF MEDICAL.	0.033					

-ARAB INT CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF UNION INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
-R.K.WHITE CMT	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AJMAN CEMENT	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR					
B-FUJAIRAH CMT	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----
C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----
D-GULF CEMENT	0.010	-----	-----	-----	-----

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	OE BUEHR N	390	393
BAER HDGS	11050	11150	OE BUEHR P	350	345
BALDISE PS	2420	2440	ROCHIE BABY	0	16550
BBC I	4000	4000	ROCHIE I	0	34600
BK LEU I	2725	2725	RUECKVER I	10350	10350
BK LEU N	2325	2325	RUECKVER N	7730	7775
BK LEU PS	329	330	RUECKVER P	1675	1690
CFV	0	0	RY TR BK	1050	1030
CIB GEIG I	3945	3935	S BUKGSL I	3210	3175
CIB GEIG N	2995	2975	S BUKGSL N	690	680
CIB GEIG P	2990	3000	S BUKGSL P	116.00	116.50
CKW	0	1215	S BUKVRN I	300.00	303.00
CRED SUI I	2460	2470	S BUKVRN N	271.00	274.00
CRED SUI N	492	497	S BUKVRN P	268.00	271.00
EG LAUFEN	1650	1600	SANDOI I	11225	11375
ELEKTROMAT	2900	2900	SANDOI N	9475	9425
ENS CHEN I	4600	4625	SANDOI PS	2050	2035
GLOBUS I	5800	5825	SULZER N	5100	5125
GLOBUS N	6000	5900	SULZER PS	390	393
GLOBUS PS	980	1000	SVB	1705	1725
JACOBS S I	7170	7190	SWISSAIR	1055	1050
JACOBS S N	1370	1390	SWISSAIR N	880	885
JACOBS S P	617	621	U THUR I	4550	4550
JELN I	2475	2425	U THUR N	3510	3570
JELN PS	345	350	U THUR PS	721	732
LANDIS N	1250	1250	ZURICH I	4790	4775
LANDIS PS	107.00	108.00	ZURICH N	3800	3900
MERCK I	790	800	ZURICH PS	1995	2010

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LON	13-1/4 13	13-7/8 3/4	14-1/8 14
FFR	6.40/50	6.65/75	7.00/10
PAT	8-1/2 5/8	8-1/2 5/8	8-11/16 13/16
BUR	6-3/8 6-5/8	7-1/8 7-3/8	7-1/8 7-3/8
XRX	8.50	8-7/16 7/16	8-9/16 5/8
RON	12-1/8 12-5/8	12-1/2 13	12-181M13
AWS	6.50/62	7.02/12	7.25/35
TCN	4-25/32 27/32	5-4/32 6/32	5.5/32 7/32
FGK	8-43 8-87	8-75 8-87	8.93 9.06

MEXICO CITY, June 6, (UPI): Ten oil workers union leaders, closely associated with disgraced union boss Joaquín Hernández Galicia, were arrested yesterday under charges of embezzlement, in the latest government move against corruption in the 200,000-member, most powerful labour organisation in Mexico.

Special agents of the Attorney-General's office began a 2:00 am raid Monday on the homes of union's local 1 leaders in gulf port of Tampico, 205 miles northeast of Mexico City.

"The action came after we received a formal accusation on May 26 from union members in Tampico," Attorney-General's spokesman Vicente Mendoza told United Press International.

"They asserted that the labour leaders had stolen vast amounts of money from the local's treasury, and from the revenues earned by Pemex," the acronym

for the state-owned Petróleos Mexicanos oil monopoly. The suspects were "brought to Mexico City for prosecution on fraud and embezzlement charges."

"The men are accused of embezzling \$740,000 over the last several months. They were unquestionably trusted allies of Joaquín Hernández Galicia, who was based in Tampico for many decades," Mendoza said.

Hernández, better known throughout Mexico as "La Quina," was for three decades the omnipotent leader of the Oil Union — Mexico's best organized and most powerful.

Although Hernández always enjoyed the confidence and support of various Mexican presidents, his long career came to a sudden and surprising end last January when new President Carlos Salinas de Gortari ordered his arrest on corruption and illegal weapons charges.

KUWAIT, June 6. (KUNA): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait today.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	0.29621	0.29696
Sterling	0.46090	0.4657
Dm.	0.1484	0.1498
S. fr.	0.1712	0.1729
F. fr.	0.04370	0.04410
lira	0.0002045	0.0002064
Yap yen	0.002065	0.002087
B. dinar	0.78600	0.78800
UAE dh.	0.08070	0.08090
S. riyal	0.0790	0.0792
Q. riyal	0.0814	0.0816
O. riyal	0.7700	0.7720

KUWAIT, June 6. (KUNA): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	9-3/8	9-7/8
3 months	9-3/16	9-11/16
6 months	8-15/16	9-7/16
1 year	8-7/8	9-3/8

Split develops on first day of price pact talks

LONDON, June 6, (AP): Big differences emerged yesterday among producing countries on the first day of the last scheduled round of talks with consumers on a new price-support pact for the

A group of 12 countries led by Mexico, Central American producers and Indonesia, all seeking bigger shares of the export quota, are opposing the position of Brazil, Colombia and most African countries, Costa Rican Foreign Trade Minister Luis Escalante said.

Positions on both sides were "very strong," said Mexican negotiator Jorge Ortega. The issue in dispute at the International Coffee Organization talks here are the conditions for extending a 6-year-old price-support agreement when it expires Sept. 30.

"We cannot accept an extension ... unless we see a complete package this week," said Ortega. Brazil, Colombia and their supporters among the coffee organisation's 50 producers want to extend the present pact and postpone discussion of conditions until September.

These conditions include the shares of the global export quota, the coffees organisation's mechanism for balancing supply and demand to stabilise the price within an agreed band.

All the dissidents except Indonesia produce the top-quality mild arabica grade, which is becoming increasingly

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China's image hurt by unrest

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): The violent crushing of student protests in Beijing has damaged China's image among West European bankers as a highly profitable lending prospect with a stable political system, bankers and economists say.

"It's too early to be definitive, but the fact that China's image has been damaged is obvious," one London-based bank economist said.

A London banker who has helped arrange financing for China summed up the opinion of others canvassed by Reuters when he said the situation in China was confused and no early conclusions about its creditworthiness should be made.

But he said: "It's difficult not to be emotive about this. You see pictures of kids being run over by personnel carriers and you think, 'Am I helping to sustain this?'"

"Last Friday China was a safe credit. The fundamentals haven't really changed that much, despite the... events of the weekend."

He noted China has recently adopted a much more open profile in the financial arena with several Chinese state bodies borrowing money in both the Eurobond and Asian money markets.

An economist at a British bank said he was convinced China would strive to meet all payments on foreign debt.

"If they miss out on one payment, they'll know that they won't get a penny more from the

West — and they can't afford that," he said.

A banker at a continental European bank said: "It's too early to begin to consider what the repercussions of the weekend's events will be. But the Chinese have a sense of honour over debts they've incurred — they'll pay the British and Americans before they pay internally."

Figures from the Bank for International Settlements — the Basel-based Central Bankers Bank — illustrate China's growing demand for Western funds. The country's debt to major Western banks rose to \$23.7 billion at the end of 1988 from 16.76 billion a year earlier.

Paul Hohl, first vice-president at the Union Bank of Switzerland in Zurich, said his bank estimated China's total foreign debt at about \$32 billion at the end of 1988.

It was too early to judge how the upheaval in China would affect its foreign debt, Hohl said.

"Their payment discipline has been excellent up to now," he said.

Managers in West Germany's Eurobond market, which China has tapped for funds several times since starting with Eurobonds in 1985, said Beijing was likely to have difficulty raising fresh capital because of public shock over recent events.

Eurobonds are instruments denominated in a European currency issued by states or firms outside the currency's home nation.

Commitment to economic liberalisation

Carnage casts doubts

TOKYO, June 6, (AP): A few days of bloodshed and suppression in Beijing may have undone years of progress in opening China to the rest of the world, business executives and analysts say.

Financial markets throughout Asia were shaken Monday by news of the violence. Hundreds and possibly thousands were killed and thousands injured after troops stormed the Chinese capital to suppress pro-democracy demonstrators.

China's credibility as a safe place to do business has been severely damaged, says Kiyoshi Inagaki, an analyst at the Mitsubishi Research Institute in Tokyo.

"The violence in China has severely damaged confidence in the country's political stability and raised the risk of doing business there," he said.

In 1978, after decades of isolation, China embarked on an economic opening to the rest of the world that has brought in billions of dollars in investment in manufacturing and tourism, facilitating technology transfers and helping to raise living standards throughout China.

The carnage in the Chinese capital casts doubts on Beijing's commitment to economic and political liberalisation and caused deep concerns over the future of Hong Kong, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

China has promised to preserve Hong Kong's free-wheeling socioeconomic lifestyle without interference from Beijing for 50 years. But Hong Kong's population of 5.7 million, most of them refugees

from China or their children, remain sceptical.

Business communities in Hong Kong and Taiwan, who have the largest investments and closest ties with China, reacted dramatically to the crackdown against protesters in Beijing.

On Monday, the Hong Kong stock market suffered its worst plunge since the 1987 world-wide market collapse. The Hang Seng index of blue chips lost 581.77 points in the morning session, closing at 2,093.61, or a whopping 21.7 per cent fall.

Property shares were hardest hit. Real estate specialists said property values — an indicator of confidence in the future — could fall between 15 and 20 per cent unless the situation in China stabilizes.

"This is the worst scenario come to pass," said Paul Varty, an executive of a major real estate firm. Officials reported a run on some mainland Chinese banks in the British colony in response to calls to withdraw funds from the institutions to deplore the killings.

On the Stock Exchange, 162 of 177 listed shares posted the maximum 5 per cent loss allowed in daily trading.

The Taiwan market was overshadowed by the crisis in Beijing, brokers said. "We cannot tell how it (the military massacre) was related to Taiwan, but we all are Chinese. It was very sad and made us angry," said one broker.

Investors fear the tough action taken by mainland leaders may affect trade between Taiwan and China, now conducted through third countries.

One manager said the television and press images of deaths of demonstrators at the hands of Chinese troops were likely to linger in investors' memories, hindering any new bond issues.

"People would probably object to them on moral grounds,"

Other bond dealers said prices

of Eurobonds issued by China and Chinese state bodies had eased but there was no widespread selling because of Beijing's good repayments record.

Alfonsin should step down early: party chief

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, June 6, (AP): The president of the opposition Peronist Party said today that Argentine President Raul Alfonsin should step down before his term ends in December for the good of the country.

"The country can't wait until Dec 10" for president-elect Carlos Menem to take office, party president Antonio Cafiero said. Menem was elected in May 14 national elections.

Argentina is confronted by economic crisis, political paralysis and social unrest. Inflation topped 70 per cent in May, interest rates remain at near record highs, and business is contracting.

Last week, food stores were looted in several of Argentina's biggest cities. In the aftermath of the unrest that caused 14 deaths, the national and provincial governments expanded programmes of public subsidies.

Aides to Alfonsin and Menem have discussed an early transition, but failed to agree on ways to stabilise the economy. Alfonsin favours increased tariffs to balance the budget, while Menem opposes any programmes that would further shrink purchasing power.

Also, Menem has insisted that the Peronists who won congressional seats on May 14 take office when he does, and not wait until Dec 10. The additional seats gives his party working majorities in both houses.

Menem's public position has been that the decision to shorten Alfonsin's six-year term "does not depend on me, but on the outgoing government."

Nevertheless, Cafiero said Menem's decision to announce his cabinet appointments ahead of schedule last weekend was an indication that "he (Menem) feels the conviction that this situation cannot be prolonged," Cafiero said.

Seven of eight ministers, among other top posts, have been named on a bipartisan list that the financial daily *Amorbo Financiero* called "almost impeccable."

They included Ricardo Lopez Murphy, a key adviser to Menem's opponent in the election; Eduardo Angeloz of the ruling Radical Civic Union was offered the post of central bank president; and Italo Luder, the Peronist's candidate for president in 1983, was named defence minister.

On Radio Provincia de Buenos Aires, Cafiero said, "The legal procedures exist for the anticipated delivery of (political) power."

"I think it might happen between August and October," Cafiero said. "The dates Aug 17 and Oct 12 should not be discarded."

The former marks the day Gen. Jose de San Martin, modern Argentina's founding father, died. The latter is the date traditionally used in Argentina to transfer power from one government to another.

Last week, the country's biggest labour union, the most influential business group and the third-biggest political party suggested that Alfonsin step down early.

US trade with Beijing jumps

Soviets increase exports

WASHINGTON, June 6, (AP): Trade between China and the United States jumped by more than a third last year to a record \$13.4 billion, the US International Trade Commission reported today.

US trade with the Soviet Union showed a surplus of \$2.2 billion, overall, trade with what the commission calls "non-market economies" — meaning those under communist rule — was a record \$19.2 billion in 1988, rising from 13.8 billion the year before.

"A high rate of industrial growth in China during 1988 was accompanied by record high inflation," the report said. "China's foreign trade expanded rapidly..."

Trade with the United States in 1987 amounted to \$9.7 billion. A decade before, in 1978, the figure crossed the \$1-billion mark for the first time. That year US exports to China reached

\$823 million, and imports 324 million.

Now, like other big US trading partners, China sells much more than it buys in this country. The US trade deficit with China rose to \$3.4 billion from 2.8 billion the year before.

The increased Chinese exports to the United States are largely manufactured goods, such as toys and games, but also items that take a lot more technical skill to produce: electrical machinery, and equipment for sound recording and telecommunications. The increase amounted to \$2.2 billion, to a total of more than 8 billion.

The commission said that a new agreement with China on limiting US imports to textiles went into effect last year. There were also new accords on sea transport and on launching US-built communications satellites from Chinese soil. An agreement on favourable US tariff rates

were renewed. US exports were largely raw materials. They also rose by \$1.5 billion to more than 5 billion, with the increase led by chemicals, wheat and softwood.

The \$2.2-billion US trade surplus with the Soviet Union was twice the 1987 figure, with increased sales of raw materials also responsible — corn (maize), wheat, soybeans and fertilizers. The Soviets increased their exports by \$155 million, largely because of increased fuel oil shipments. Trade with the Soviets was up, but at 3.3 billion in 1988 it was less than one-fourth the China trade.

The report called attention to improvement in US trade relations with the Soviets: lifting of the embargo on Soviet furs, extension of the agreement on US grain sales and increased interest among US companies in doing business in the Soviet Union.

Babangida defends his economic policy

LAGOS, June 6, (Reuters): Nigeria's military President Ibrahim Babangida today strongly defended his economic policy, target since late May of widespread and often violent student-led protests.

"We will not succumb to blackmail, nor yield to any threat of intimidation," General Babangida said in a speech delivered in Nigeria's planned future capital, Abuja.

Earlier he abruptly postponed a planned official visit to France this week. A statement by the External Affairs Ministry gave no reason for the move.

Babangida was addressing the inaugural session of a 265-member Armed Forces Consultative Assembly, set up to integrate the military rank and file into his programme for handing power back to civilians by 1992.

In 1986 his government began a programme of economic structural adjustment in an attempt to extricate the West African nation with a population of about 100 million from a debt burden now put at \$30 billion.

Nigeria's dollar revenues have collapsed to a quarter of their 1980 level, although it is one of the world's major oil producers — its Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman was re-elected president of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) yesterday.

Policies endorsed by the International Monetary Fund aim to free the country from its dependence on imports paid for in oil by encouraging private enterprise, promoting foreign investment and rationalising state concerns.

Malaysian trade team in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus, June 6, (AP): A high-ranking Malaysian delegation arrived in Tehran for a three-day visit. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the delegation is led by Tan Sri Haji Basir Bin Ismail, the president of Malaysia's oil company Petronas.

It added that the two sides will discuss the sale of Iranian crude oil to Malaysia and other related oil matters.

Recruit scandal

Central figure out on \$1.4m bail

TOKYO, June 6, (AP): The former chairman of the Recruit Co., the company at the centre of the bribery scandal that has rocked Japanese politics, was released today on bail of 200 million yen (\$1.4 million) officials said.

Hiromasa Ezoe, 52, spent 113 days in custody after his arrest on Feb 13 for allegedly bribing former Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. executives Ei Shikiba and Hisahiko Hasegawa.

Ezoe was the last person to be released from among the 12 people indicted and held in the bribery scandal. The bail for others ranged from 5 million (\$35,200) to 30 million yen (\$209,800) said Akira Saito, Tokyo district court spokesman.

Ezoe later also was charged with offering cut-rate stock shares to former NTT chairman Hisashi Shinjo, former Vice-Education Minister Kunio Takashi, former chief Cabinet Secretary Takao Fujinami, former Parliament member Kasuya Ikeda and former Vice-Labour Minister Takashi Kato.

The recipients of the cut-rate stock shares have been indicted on charges of taking bribes and have been released on bail.

Meanwhile, Ryutaro Hashimoto, the new secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, told a new conference today his political support group had received but did not report 160

million yen (\$1.1 million) in donations in April 1985, including 400,000 yen (\$2,820) from Recruit.

Hashimoto said last Friday he also received an additional 2 million yen (\$14,000) in donations in 1986 from Recruit, an information and publishing conglomerate.

Hashimoto told reporters he did not mean to hide the donations and apologised for not having properly supervised his secretaries, who he said had handled the transactions.

Hashimoto was appointed on Friday to the administration of new Prime Minister Sosuke Uno.

On Friday, former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and his cabinet resigned, ending his 18-month administration in an attempt to clear the stains of the bribery scandal from the ruling party.

The scandal surfaced last summer when the nationally circulated newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* reported that the deputy mayor of a city near Tokyo had received bargain-priced stocks from Recruit in exchange for favours to the company.

In the following months, investigations showed that Recruit provided cut-rate stock to about 160 politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen, and gave large donations to key politicians in an alleged attempt to buy influence.

manufacturers from 34 nations fighting for orders for both military and civilian aircraft from 300 official buying missions.

The show, held every two years, comes at a time when all aviation firms are under severe pressure.

Civilian plane-makers such as Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium and Boeing and McDonnell Douglas from the United States are struggling to keep pace with the air traffic boom which has filled order books to 1995.

But military manufacturers are facing shrinking markets due to East-West disarmament, truces in the Gulf and Afghanistan and tighter defence budgets around the world.

The huge Soviet showing at Le Bourget marks the arrival of serious new rivals for American and European aerospace firms which until now have considered themselves far head technologically.

On the civilian front the medium-range twin-engine Tupolev airliner is a serious rival to Europe's advanced computer-con-

trolled Airbus jets and to Boeing.

"The Tupolev is the first Soviet plane to compete technically with Western airliners," Hunting said.

The British aviation magazine *Flight International* said last month: "The Tupolev's first flight (in January this year) might turn out to have been a turning point for Soviet exports... (and) play an important part in the aviation industry's response to government pressure to earn more hard currency through exports."

The Sukhoi's keenest rivals in the displays over Le Bourget will be France's new-generation Rafale made by Avions Marcel Dassault and General Dynamics of the USA flying a Turkish-built F-16C.

General Dynamics said it welcomed the chance to see the Sukhoi jets in action. "We'll be glad to have a first-hand view of the Soviet aircraft," an official said.

It is not the first time the Soviet Union has used Le Bourget to show off its technology to the West.

ARAB TIMES GRAND



COMPETITION NO. 70

PRIZES

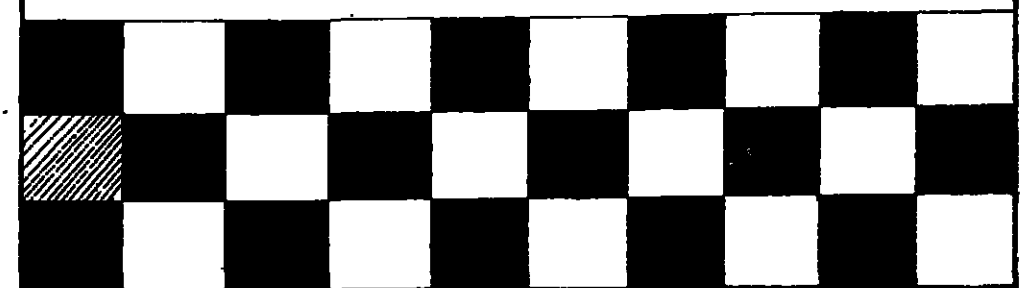
First Full House: KD 100
Second Full House: KD 60
Third Full House: KD 40
Top Line: KD 25
Four Corners: KD 25

Hurry! make sure you get your Arab Times

HOW TO PLAY

1. Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
2. Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
3. Fill in your name and address in the appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.
4. Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
5. Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
6. Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

FREE BINGO No. 70 ENTRY



ANSWER THIS CLUE IN THE SHADED SQUARE:

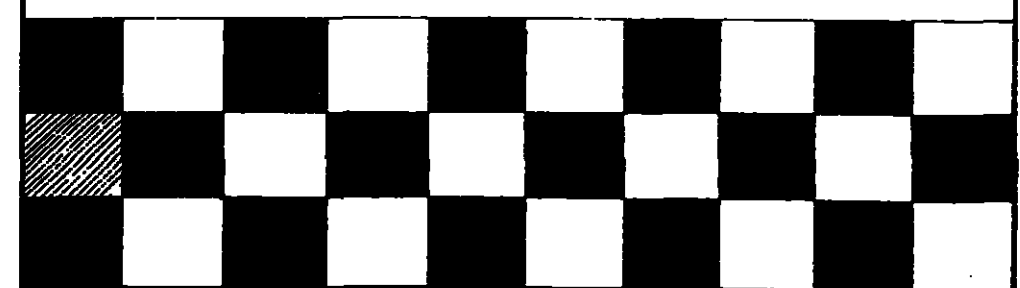
THIS GAME

NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss)

ADDRESS

IS YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE?

FREE BINGO No. 70 COPY



How to claim

EVERYDAY four numbers will appear on Page Two. A number may be repeated. If this happens, continue with the rest of the numbers. Check off on your copy card the number or numbers which coincide with your selected numbers. Do this every day.

Please make a note of the last number you checked off, i.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to: Bingo, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

By Kathy Cuddy

Not the joys of flying

I remember those long-ago days when air travel was a privilege and an adventure. The pilots were responsible, well-qualified men who took their jobs seriously and never considered doing anything as crass as going on strike. The cabin staff graciously spent time chatting with each passenger — out of pleasure rather than necessity. All the stewardesses were tall, good-looking and impressively poised. I know. In my short and dumpy youth, I applied to become a stewardess and was summarily rejected.

Goodness knows, times have changed. The pace has become frantic, the passenger numbers have increased dramatically and, in the course of it all, standards on many airlines have suffered. Even I — short and dumpy and middle-aged — could probably get a job as a stewardess with no difficulty now.

If being jammed into diminishing seating space like human cattle weren't already bad enough, passengers also have to deal with ever more burdensome regulations. Many rules are fairly standard: confirm ongoing reservations at least 72 hours before departure. Mind you, some airlines annoyingly follow the rule to the letter: it doesn't matter if you haven't even arrived at your point of departure in order to confirm; they take delight in cancelling your seat. This I know from experience. And certain airlines, however, enforce a code of conformity grows dim.

Take weight allowances, for example. On certain sectors, passengers are allowed a total of two checked pieces of baggage per person, regardless of weight. On other sectors, a passenger might only have one suitcase, but if it exceeds the weight allowance, the passenger has to pay the excess baggage charges. The system seems to be designed for the benefit of the airlines and the disadvantage of the passengers. I know. I've been caught in the trap. Logical explanations don't hold much weight against established weight policies.

Once, when departing from a small airport in Scotland, a particularly officious official smugly informed me that I had five kilos as overweight baggage. Most of the other passengers carried only hand luggage and several offered to share their weight allowance with me.

"Sorry, can't do that. The regulations are clear. You have to pay, lassie."

I refused to give into such dictatorial bureaucracy.

"The regulations also say a passenger can have one piece of hand baggage," I retorted.

Catching my meaning, another passenger went off to search for some sort of container. He came back triumphantly holding a cardboard box. In it went

the five offending kilos from my suitcase.

"It's not your regular piece of hand baggage," I said, smiling sweetly at the defeated prig behind the counter, "but then fortunately the regulations aren't terribly specific about that, are they?"

While certain national carriers tend to do things by the book, others can be delightfully understanding.

"Sure, don't I know how difficult it is to pack to the pound," say the Irish ground personnel sympathetically. "Away with ya now and don't have a worry for all this extra weight."

People like that certainly have the edge in good passenger relations.

Terrorism has added a new dimension to air travel. Now, due to the need for detailed security searches, recommended check-in on some airlines is as much as three hours before the scheduled flight time. If you take into consideration the various delays, an unlucky passenger could spend a good part of his/her holiday at airports. That's right... I know.

"Sorry, Madam," said one zealous security officer, "but I'll have to confiscate the batteries from your camera and tape recorder."

"What on earth for?" I demanded, protectively throwing my body over my precious equipment. "You've already taken my deodorant and my perfume

atomizer and squeezed out the contents of my toothpaste. This flight is going to a remote part of the country and I'm a photo-journalist. It's bad enough I'll be a social outcast. You have to leave me something to work with."

"Batteries can be used to make bombs."

"I can assure you, it takes more than batteries. Besides, I believe that it's dry-cell batteries that are the bomber's tool."

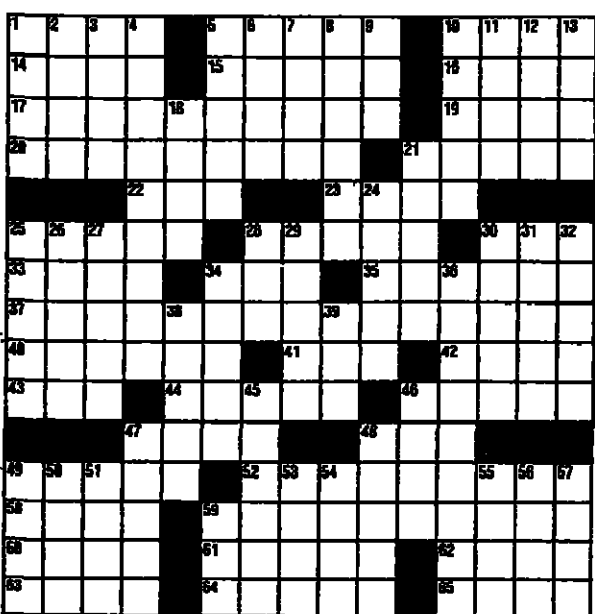
"How do you know so much about bomb making?" he asked suspiciously before calling the attention of a higher-ranked officer.

Fortunately, he was a more reasonable man and I escaped detention and the confiscation of my batteries. Nothing would convince him to return my toiletries, however.

Stricter curbs on baggage have reached outlandish proportions. Some airports now refuse to accept, as either checked or hand-carried baggage, electrical or electronic goods. A recent newspaper report advised that "items such as televisions, computers, radios, tape recorders, video cameras, video cassette recorders, washing machines and air-conditioners" now have to be sent by air freight. Isn't that just great.

Terrorists will always manage to find a way to carry out their nefarious deeds, but innocent passengers are fast running out of patience to cope with resultant regulations. I guess air travel is still an adventure... of sorts... but I'm beginning to think that it's best left to the birds.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Sentry's word
 - Governing group
 - Baseball grand —
 - "Peekaboo, — you!"
 - La Scala highlights
 - Narrow way
 - Education fundamentals
 - Part of BA
 - Finely notched
 - S.A. mountain system
 - Before how or where
 - Photo
 - Make fit
 - Change
 - Stamp collector's org.
 - Gambling town
 - Sash for Yum-Yum
 - Milano's
 - Be careful
 - Biological relocation
 - Atlas abbr.
 - Of sailors and ships: Abbr.
 - Neighbor of Okla.
 - French artist Fernand
- DOWN**
- 47 Epsilon follower
 - 48 Type of bran
 - 49 Hue
 - 52 Gear drive inefficiencies
 - 58 Norse deity
 - 59 Butcher's offering
 - 60 Industrial fuel
 - 61 Bravery
 - 62 Otherwise
 - 63 Anagram for rose
 - 64 Capital of Guam
 - 65 Ragout
 - 1 Singles, doubles etc.
 - 2 Tennis great
 - 3 Look lasciviously
 - 4 Creatures with two pairs of limbs
 - 5 Simon of song
 - 6 Location
 - 7 Food regimen
 - 8 Most scarce
 - 9 Curve
 - 10 Incline
 - 11 Grease
 - 12 Feed the kitty
 - 13 Disorder
 - 18 Search
 - 21 Main artery
 - 24 Stickup
 - 25 Medieval helmet

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
LOSE ONE, WIN ONE

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ 10 8 6 3
♥ A K
♦ A K
♣ J 9 8 5

EAST
♠ A Q 9 7 5
♥ Q J 8 2
♦ J 9 3
♣ 2

SOUTH
♠ K 4
♥ 10 7 6 3
♦ Q 8 4
♣ A 10 7 3

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 NT Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠
The winning line on this hand is not easy to spot, yet it is deceptively simple. See if you can find a way to guarantee your contract after the lead of the jack of spades.

Three no trump was reached at both tables of a team match on identical auctions. Note that South's bid of one no trump, after East's overcall, was forward-going, showing a reasonable hand. North had ample for his raise to game.

At both tables the opening lead was the jack of spades. At one table declarer decided to bank everything on the club finesse. He won the first trick with the king of spades as East

signalled encouragingly with the seven, crossed to the king of diamonds and ran the queen of clubs. East was happy to take the trick and revert to spades through the 10-8, and no matter what declarer did, he had to lose four spade tricks for down one.

At the other table declarer made his contract with ease, and there was nothing the defenders could do about it. South simply allowed the jack of spades to win the first trick!

West continued with a spade, but regardless of what East played the contract was secure. If he followed low, the king would win and declarer could take the club finesse with safety—since East surely held a five-card spade suit for his overcall. West would be out of spades if the club finesse failed. But rising with the ace of spades proved no better. Dummy's ten of spades would control the fourth round of the suit so, even though declarer would not take a spade trick, his contract was in the bag via four club tricks, three diamonds and two hearts.



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
MOAT AMES AJAR
ACRE DRILL UELLE
CHEESECAKE SLED
SATING SETTLED
ERIL PREY
DEPRESS SIERRA
AXIS EAMON EONS
TIE RAIF LLOP
ALIAS SITAR ALDA
ELEENAS REVISED
AVION DEM
ARMENIA EARLES
POOR BROWN BETTY
EDDA ETTES SALE
REEL LETS SLOW

Weekly Quiz

Are you wild about holidays?

By Marina Shamoon

DO you do over board when you go on holiday? Come on. Be honest with yourself! If you can't remember, get out those holiday snaps and have another look if you dare!

Are you the type who likes a holiday on the wild side? Or are you an angel in disguise? Try this quiz and find out.

1. You've gone on a trek across the Himalayas. Do you:
a) Give up halfway through?
b) Love the place so much that you decide to stay and enter a monastery?
c) Enjoy it so much that you book the same holiday again for next year?
d) Vow you'll never do anything like it again?

2. What is your favourite outfit on holiday?
a) Skippy shorts and top.
b) Exotically printed sarong.
c) Cotton trousers and tee-shirt.
d) The smallest and tightest of black dresses.

3. The Spanish waiter at your hotel says he is madly in love with you and wants to marry you. Do you:
a) Slap his face for being insolent?
b) Complain to the manager?
c) Meet him at the local church, dressed in white?
d) Giggle, and ignore him but tell everyone about it?

4. What is the first thing you do when you arrive at your hotel?
a) Unpack, shower and sleep.
b) Go to the nearest restaurant.
c) Go to the pool or the beach and start sunbathing.
d) Get together with the rest of the group and have a party.

5. What is your ideal evening when you're on holiday?
a) A quiet dinner.
b) Disco.
c) A party in your room.
d) Going for a walk.

6. When you're at a disco, are you the type who:
a) Drinks Coke all night.
b) Sits in a corner just talking.
c) Dances the night away.
d) Gets sloshed.

7. A group of you have decided to try the local cuisine. Do you:
a) Say you don't like anything on the menu but you'll try their drinks.
b) Ask the waiter to explain what the dishes are.
c) Read and speak the language so perfectly, you have no problems ordering.
d) Get out your guide book and have a go at understanding the language?

8. You're in Greece and you've gone to a tavern where they have folk dancers. What would you do if one came over and invited you to join in:
a) Say No, politely.
b) Get up and completely take over, so they can't get rid of you.
c) Refuse to be drawn in and make your point by pouring your drink over the leader.
d) Show you dance better than they do. You went to classes at home just in case the occasion arose?

9. Why do you choose a particular resort? Is it because you've heard:
a) It's cheap.
b) It is quiet and uncommercialised.
c) There are lots of single people.
d) All your friends are going there so you don't want to be left out?

10. What do you look for in a holiday?
a) That it has a beach.
b) There are a wide variety of water sports.
c) That it has a rich history.
d) The restaurants stay open all night.

11. What do you think about holiday romance?
a) You haven't had one.
b) You stay with your new love

and find a job to save up for the wedding.
c) It was a good laugh while it lasted.
d) You ask your new man to visit you and promise to write?

12. How would you describe your holiday behaviour:
a) No change from what you are like at home.
b) Cautious and wary of strangers.
c) Out to have as good a time as you possibly can.
d) You can't remember a thing apart from eating.

13. You're taken to see a historical site. Do you:
a) Marvel and listen carefully to what the guide has to say.
b) Chip in with facts the guide didn't mention.
c) Think it is all a waste of time and go back to the coach.
d) Miss the trip because you had a late night and slept in?

14. You're walking and someone pinches you. Do you:
a) Turn around and kick the person behind you.
b) Ignore.
c) Stop the culprit a suggest he sees a psychiatrist?
d) Follow the man and pinch him

15. You feel hungry. Do you:
a) Look for the nearest fish and chip shop.
b) Hate the local dishes and stick to the beer.
c) Have a cosmopolitan taste.
d) Show you're a Cordon Bleu cook and give the chef a few tips?

Now see how you scored.

	a	b	c	d
1	5	15	0	10
2	10	5	0	15
3	10	0	15	5
4	0	10	5	15
5	0	5	10	15
6	15	5	0	10
7	5	10	15	0
8	10	5	15	0

If you score 0-75:
Your ideal holiday is an uninhabited island where there are no discos or noisy streets but plenty of historical monuments to see. You cannot abide the outrageous behaviour of some of your compatriots and you want to give the impression that not all tourists are thugs. Relax and stop carrying the problems of the world on your shoulders.

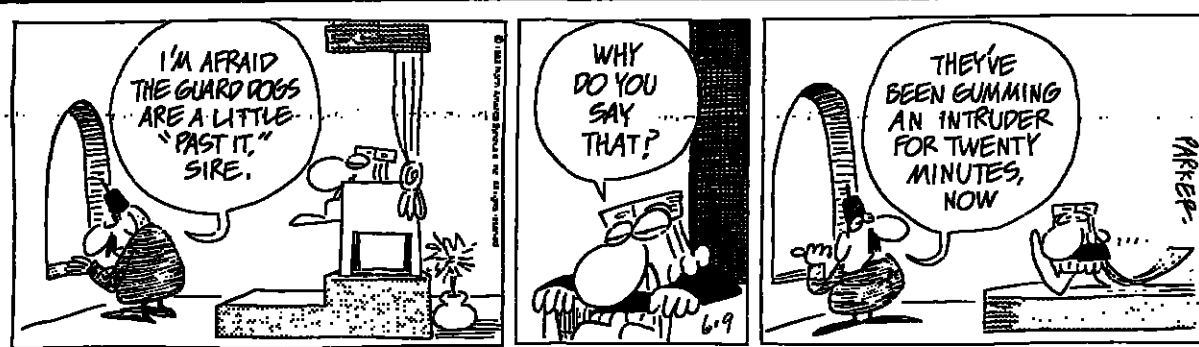
With 76-150:
You can be a little over-cautious. You take all the right clothes and items to help you feel at home. You want your holiday to be perfect and will put aside time to take in the local sights. You can be a real raver at times, but you need encouragement.

A remarkable 151-225:
You just don't care where you are, what you do, or to whom you do it. Or what the consequences are. You're on holiday and that means freedom. Try to conserve some energy. You're likely to need it when you get back home.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be tempted to spend more than you can afford. You should make sure you do not confuse what is important with what is not. Try not to do anything that would obviously be bad for your health. Be punctual.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will not feel inclined to do very much and you must use your willpower to try to overcome this disinclination. You should not allow yourself to be invaded by negative thoughts. Do not assume that others will always agree with you. Be attentive.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should not allow yourself to be taken in by sales talk. Your lucky numbers are 7 and 27. You should not neglect your private life. Try not to do more than one thing at a time. Be respectful.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Something that you have been doing wrongly will come to your notice and you will be able to make improvements. You are more likely to be forgetful, so make notes for yourself. Do not delay what you know should be done now. Be tolerant.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Avoid allowing old documents to accumulate and do your best to keep tidy. You will have to deal with a nervous person — much easier to do so if you keep calm. Make sure you do not neglect your health: follow a sane diet. Be moderate.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to speed up the way you do something that you have learnt recently. You should try not to do anything your partner would not agree with. Make an effort to see the other person's point of view too. Be fair.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will tend to tire rather more easily and should not overstrain yourself. However that does not mean sitting back and doing little or nothing. Avoid getting into an argument. Be objective.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Your creative powers will help you to deal with an unusual situation. You will be able to impress others but do avoid boasting. Do not expect everyone to agree with everything you say or do. Be sensible.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

If you think that only others mistakes you are quite wrong. You will be better able to cope with a personal problem. You will have to be a little more patient. Be generous.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Make sure you are not making a nuisance of yourself and do not allow anyone to impose upon you either. You should not spend too much time dealing with a secondary problem. Try to keep your wits about you and use more commonsense. Be tactful.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

This is going to be a tiring day for you so try to conserve your energies. Do take regular exercise, but nothing too strenuous. Do not pay too much attention to your intuitions just now. Be sincere.

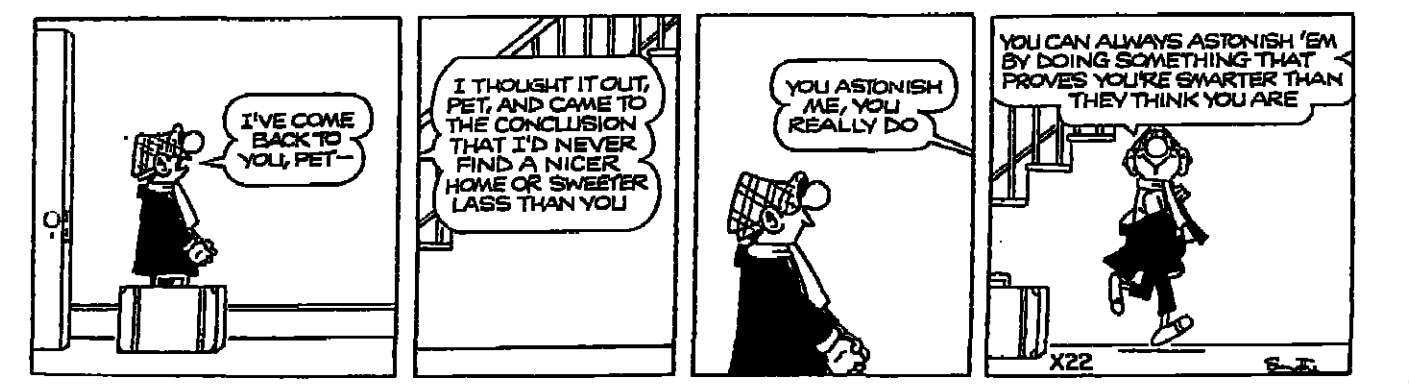


Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You have good reason for optimism out it must not be allowed to become smugness. Something you have postponed should be done without further delay. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be independent.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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Messilah Beach Real Estate
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2408510

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NISSAN Bluebird, Turbo, 1984, AC, automatic, red, 4 doors, 63,000 kms, insured up

SPORTS

Roman beats Carazo to retain crown

LOS ANGELES, June 6, (Reuters): Mexico's Gilberto Roman outboxed the hard-punching number one contender Juan Carazo of Puerto Rico last night to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) super flyweight title in a 12-round unanimous points decision.

"He hurt me a lot," Roman said through an interpreter. "He was the toughest opponent I ever had."

Roman, twice WBC super-flyweight champion, dominated the fight after recovering from a fourth-round knockdown. After his jab proved ineffective at keeping Carazo back in the early rounds, Roman, 27, moved in close.

With a barrage of punches Roman, in his fourth title defense since regaining the championship in 1988, sent Carazo to his knees in the final seconds of the sixth round. Roman opened a cut under Carazo's eye in the 10th round.

"His great experience dominated the fight," Carazo, 24, said. "I couldn't do what I wanted to," he said through an interpreter.

While a tired and bleeding Carazon missed a lot of punches in the final rounds, the champion remained wary of the still-dangerous challenger until the end.

"He was always a dangerous opponent," Roman said.

Snooker stars line up for Dubai Classic

DUBAI: Thirty-two of the world's top professional snooker players will contest the 1989 Dubai Classic, a world-ranking tournament to be held later this year with a total of £200,000 (Dh 1.16 million) in prize money at stake.

The tournament, on a much bigger scale than last year's inaugural event, will be sponsored by Dubai Duty Free and Emirates, the international airline of the UAE.

To find the 32 players who will play in Dubai, three days of qualifying rounds will take place in the English holiday town of Blackpool later this week.

Current world No. 2 John Parrott and world No. 3 Stephen Hendry will be among the 128 players in action at Blackpool's Norbreck Castle Hotel on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (June 9-11). The 32 who qualify will fly to Dubai for the climax of the tournament from October 27 to November 3.

In all, the qualifying rounds have attracted 18 players ranked in the world's top 25, including former world champions Alex "Hurricane" Higgins, Joe Johnson and John Spencer.

Also among the men expected to win through to Dubai is new world No. 6 Mike Hallett, along with other established stars like Tony Knowles, Doug Mountjoy, John Virgo, Dean Reynolds, Rex Williams and Silvino Francisco.

But with matches being decided over the best of nine frames, there could be some surprises.

Swiss face Czechs in important Cup tie

GENEVA, June 6, (Reuters): Paul Wolfisberg, Switzerland's caretaker soccer coach, has exhorted his team to respond to "a do-or-die situation," in the World Cup qualifying match against Czechoslovakia tomorrow.

The Swiss are lying fourth in European Group Seven — Belgium, Czechoslovakia and Portugal are ahead of them — and defeat tomorrow would effect end their chance of reaching the finals for the first time since 1966.

Former coach Wolfisberg, who returned to the job temporarily after the dismissal of his successor Daniel Jendoupeux, found team morale low after six defeats in nine matches.

At a weekend training camp, supervised by former West German World Cup player Uli Stielike, who takes over as coach in July, Wolfisberg told the players: "This is a match we have to win. It is a do-or-die situation. I expect you to play your hearts out as you have in the past for me."

During Wolfisberg's four-year spell as national coach, Switzerland were unbeaten at home in 10 World Cup and European championship qualifying ties with memorable wins over England, Scotland and Belgium.

Swiss team stalwarts St Etienne's Alain Geiger, who was sidelined in the 3-1 away thrashing by Portugal, and Heinz Hermann are fully fit again, and Wolfisberg has strengthened the attack with in-form strikers Rene Sutter from Young Boys and Grosshopper Zurich's Andy Halter.

Czechoslovak coach Jozef Venglos will be without two regulars, top-scoring striker Milan Luhoy and defender Lubomir Vik who are both injured.

Venglos knows what to expect from an all-or-nothing Swiss side. "It will be an immensely difficult match psychologically," he said. "I will decide about the line-up just hours before the match."

Switzerland (probable) — Martin Brunner, Marcel Koller, Stefan Marini, Rene Sutter, Alain Geiger, Heinz Hermann, Alain Sutter, Beat Sutter, Andy Halter.

Czechoslovakia (from) — Jan Stejskal, Ludek Miklosko, Julius Bielek, Ladislav Kinier, Vaclav Nemecek, Milan Simunek, Jan Kocian, Miroslav Kadlec, Michal Bilek, Vladimir Weiss, Ivan Hasek, Jozef Chovanec, Lubomir Moravcik, Stanislav Griga, Tomas skuhravy, Vaclav Danek, Frantisek Straka.



Primo Nebiolo

Inquiry evidence shocks Nebiolo

IAAF leading fight against drug abuse

MONTE CARLO, June 6, (Reuters): International athletics chief Primo Nebiolo said yesterday he was shocked by revelations at the Canadian government inquiry into drugs in amateur athletics.

"What is happening in Toronto is shocking me, I can tell you," Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), said. "I am not happy at all."

The inquiry, set up after Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson was stripped of the Seoul Olympic 100 metres gold medal following a positive dope test, has heard allegations of systematic drug abuse in athletics.

Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, has testified that he injected Johnson and other athletes with body-building

steroids, banned by the International Olympic Committee since 1975.

Nebiolo, speaking at a news conference at the opening of a three-day symposium on drugs in sport, described Johnson's disqualification at the Seoul Olympics after a positive doping test as "a great tragedy."

In his first substantive statement on the incident, Nebiolo said he had received a letter under the door of his apartment at 0500 telling him Johnson had tested positive after winning the 100 metres final.

"I was practically dead," Nebiolo said. "We were so enthusiastic when we saw the 100 metres final because it was really a fantastic race. When I received that letter — really for me it was a great tragedy."

The symposium is the second hosted by the International Athletic Foundation, a privately-funded body based in Monaco to support the IAAF.

Nebiolo was at pains to stress what he called the IAAF's leading role in fighting doping abuse.

"We believe that in the last 30 years the IAAF has been leading the world in doping control," he said.

"In Seoul we had a very famous occasion. Many people have forgotten that in Seoul there were also nine other (doping disqualification) cases."

"It may be also that nobody remembers the names of those nine athletes. Johnson was very famous and so that case became the case of the year."

Nebiolo and other officials dismissed claims from Canadian

Richard Pound, an Olympic committee vice-president, that the IAAF had deliberately avoided testing for certain banned substances at the 1987 Rome World Championships.

Pound told the Canadian inquiry rumours were rife that there had been positive tests in Rome which had not been acted upon.

He also said it was not credible that there had been no positive tests at the inaugural 1983 Helsinki World Championships.

Sweden's Arne Ljunqvist, chairman of both the symposium's organising committee and the IAAF medical committee, said Pound's allegations were an attack on his professional integrity.

"It's disgraceful in my view," Ljunqvist said.

Giants beat Reds Martinez pulls it out for Dodgers

ATLANTA, June 6, (AP): Ramon Martinez stuck out nine and walked one to give Los Angeles a 7-0 victory over Houston in the first game, homers by Kirk Gibson and John Shelby gave the Dodgers a 4-2 win in the second for a sweep last night.

"I knew I was giving them more chance to rest the others," said Martinez, who stopped the Braves on six hits.

"I was aware of what had happened the last two days," Martinez, who had a 1-3 record last year, got his first shutout and complete game in seven Major-League starts.

"I feel more confident," Martinez said. "I've got better stuff, better control and a better curve ball."

Elsewhere, it was: San Francisco 11, Cincinnati 8; St Louis 5, Montreal 4; Chicago 15, New York 3, and San Diego 10, Houston 2. Pittsburgh and Philadelphia played to a 3-3 tie in a game called by rain in the bottom of the eighth inning.

Giants 11, Reds 8

Jose Uribe homered and Kevin Mitchell singled with the bases loaded as San Francisco pounded Jose Rijo with six early runs. Scott Garrels, 4-1, scattered seven hits in eight innings after retiring the first 13 batters.

Cardinals 5, Expos 4

Milt Thompson hit a three-run homer as St Louis scored five runs in the third inning and beat Montreal for its second victory in eight games.

Jose DeLeon, 7-3, combined with Ken Dayley and John Costello on a three-hitter.

Cubs 15, Mets 3

Dwight Smith hit a three-run homer in the first inning and a bases-loaded triple by Vance Law highlighted a six-run sixth as Chicago pounded New York. Greg Maddux, 5-5, won his fourth straight start.

Padres 10, Astros 2

Ed Whitson allowed five hits in eight innings for his seventh straight victory and Tony Gwynn had four singles as San Diego snapped Houston's 10-game winning streak.

Pirates 3, Phillies 3

The game was called after a delay of 1 hour, 44 minutes. All the statistics count and the game will be replayed in its entirety as part of a July 28 doubleheader.

The Blue Jays lost their debut in the new Skydome last night as Glenn Briggs hit a two-run homer, leading Milwaukee past Toronto 5-3.

The day started overcast, but by late afternoon the sun was shining and the retractable roof was rolled back.

The game had a postseason atmosphere, as both teams lined up on the basepaths for pregame introductions, a band played and Canadian star Anne Murray sang the national anthems of Canada and the United States.

When the Blue Jays took the field, they were given a standing ovation by a sellout crowd of 48,378 and several players tipped their caps.

"That was great," Toronto catcher Ernie Whit said. "This is a great place and it belongs to the people of Toronto and I'm sure there will be many great moments here."

Elsewhere it was: Baltimore 16, New York 3; Boston 5, Detroit 2; Texas 4, Chicago 2; Minnesota 2, Oakland 1; Cleveland 7, California 3; Kansas City 5, Seattle 3.

Orioles 16, Yankees 3

Steve Finley's Grand Slam capped an eight-run third inning and the Baltimore Orioles, helped by six New York errors, embarrassed the Yankees 16-3 for their eighth straight victory.

Red Sox 5, Tigers 2

Mike Greenwell hit a 440-foot (130-metre) home run and drove in three runs as the Red Sox spoiled the return of Tigers manager Sparky Anderson. Roger Clemens, 6-4, got the victory.

New Zealand name team for first Rugby Union Test

WELLINGTON, June 6, (Reuters): New Zealand today retained their successful team from last year for the first Rugby Union Test against Five Nations champions France in Christchurch on June 17.

On an unbeaten 13-game tour of Australia in 1988, the All Blacks, the world champions, at the host nation 2-0 in a re-match Test series and the selectors have kept faith with the winning format.

The pack is a blend of old and new including number eight Iwan Tukalo and flanker Miroslav Kadlec, with a new-look front-row of Philippe Blain, Dominique Bouet and Steve Pujolle.

France (V counties): Serge Blanco, Stephane Weller, Philippe Sella, Franck Mesnel, Philippe Laquisquet, Philippe Laithe, Thomas, Pierre Berbizier, Laurent Rodriguez, vier Roumat, Dominique Lani, Jean Condom, Alain Laminati, Philippe Gallart,

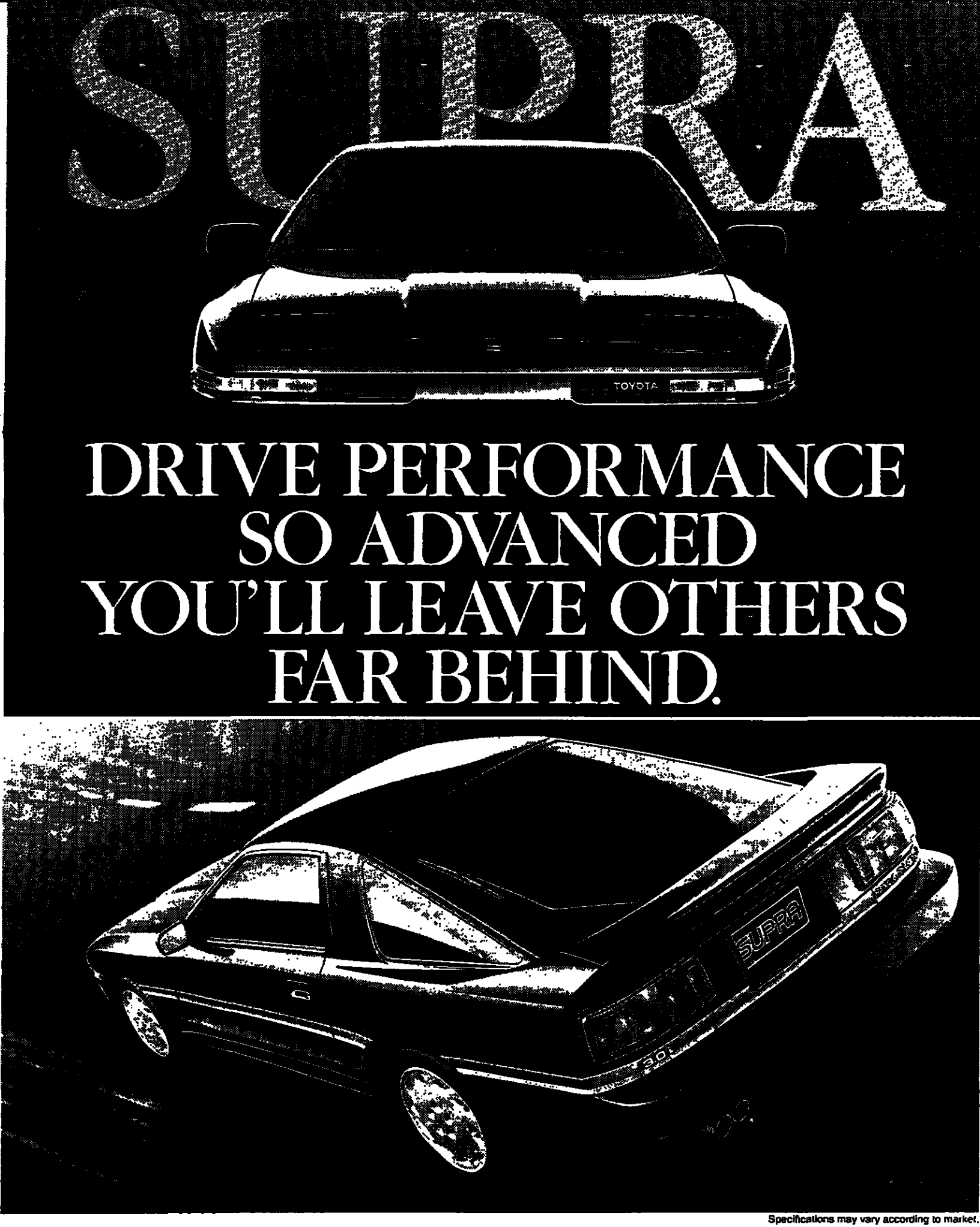
Dominique Bouet, Marc Pujolle. Reserves: Henri Sanz, Jean-Baptiste Lafond, Marc Andrieu, Pascal Ondarts, Herve Chabowski, Marc Cecillon.

Counties: Richard Cole, Grant Nolan, Gary Millington, Waisea Taburua, Carl Murray, Stu Hollier, Gary Thomas, Te Rau Clarke, Andrew Fleming, Derek MacDonald, Alan Dawson (captain), Mark Birtwistle, Tom Parsons, John Smythe, Peter Curley.

Reserves: Stephen Hickey, Peter Bennenbroek, Brett Coates, Marc Anderson, Mark Sefton, Brett Bedwell.

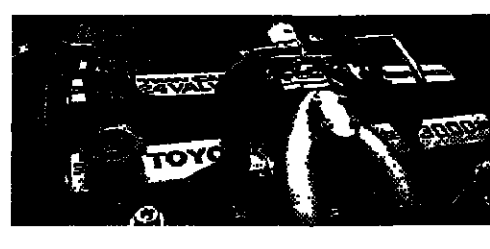
All Blacks Test team: John Gallagher, John Kirwan, Jow Stanley, John Schuster, Terry Wright, Grant Fox, Bruce Deans, Wayne Shelford (captain) Alan Whetton, Gary Whetton, Murray Pierce, Michael Jones, Richard Loe, Sean Fitzpatrick, Steve McDowell.

Reserves: Bernie McCahill, Frano Botica, Graeme Bachop, Zinzan Brooke, Ron Williams, Warren Gatland.



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Local hockey

KUWAIT Independent Gold beat Cosmos 3-2 in a Champions Trophy hockey match at the Ahmadi grounds on Friday. Glen, Mario and Tommy scored for Independents while Dama got both the goals for Cosmos. In another match, Punjab were awarded a walkover in a Punjab Shield quarterfinal when World Stars failed to turn up. On Friday, Unity meet Flying Arrows at 5.00 pm while Al Hilal meet Kuwait Independent Gold at the same time.

Title bout

SYDNEY, Australia, June 6. (AP) — Unbeaten Australian boxer Jeff "Hit Man" Harding flew out of Sydney today predicting he would win the World Boxing Council light-heavyweight title from British veteran Dennis Andries. Detroit-based Andries, 35, defends his title against Harding in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on June 24.

Napoli president

NAPLES, Italy, June 6. (Reuters) — Napoli soccer club president Corrado Ferlaino yesterday firmly ruled out any talks about a possible transfer to France of Diego Maradona. And he was described as extremely annoyed at repeated attempts by Marseille owner Bernard Tapie to arrange a meeting with Napoli about Maradona's future.

Carl Lewis

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 6. (AP) — Olympic sprint champion Carl Lewis will head a team from the Santa Monica Track Club aiming for the 11-year-old world record in the 800-metre relay at a British meet this month.

Bout postponed

MILAN, Italy, June 6. (AP) — The World Boxing Organisation (WBO) featherweight title fight between Italian champion Maurizio Stecca and Venezuelan challenger Levy Maynor has been postponed by one week, to June 16. The bout was originally scheduled for Friday night at Milan's Palatrussardi.

Chris Evert

PARIS, June 6. (Reuters) — Chris Evert, who pulled out of the French Open tennis championships less than two weeks ago hinting she may soon retire, is to play at Wimbledon this year, tennis officials announced yesterday.

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Westminster System-17 bridge tournament held at the Regency Palace on Sunday evening:

1. Adly Tiab & Sherif Basyouni
2. Sharing second: Bassam Salah & John Burke and Saeed Al Saeed & Abdul Ghani Shalaby
3. E/W
1. J. Gajjar & Fazel Hussain
2. Dhruva Mukerjee & Ravi Bhatt
3. Ahmed Hneidi & Midhat Hosni

Edberg takes Mancini to task

Wimbledon champion first to reach semifinals

PARIS, June 6. (Reuters) — Third seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden, honing his serve and volley game to the demands of clay, reached the semifinals of the French Open today with a straight sets win over Argentine sensation of the season Alberto Mancini.

Edberg, who played aggressively from the start, overwhelmed Mancini in only one minute over two hours with a 6-1 6-3 7-6 victory in a match delayed and interrupted by rain.

The Swedish Wimbledon champion, who readily admits he feels more comfortable on grass than on clay, has dropped just one set so far in advancing to his first Roland Garros semifinal.

Mancini, the 20-year-old winner of the Monte Carlo and Italian Opens, could not get into the match in the first two sets as Edberg rushed the net and put away a series of punishing volleys.

The Argentine found his rhythm in the third set, when Edberg started to have problems with his first serve, and broke to lead 2-1. The Swede had to save a set point on his own serve at 5-3 down but held it and then broke to level at 5-5.

Mancini saved a first match-point in the tiebreak with a well-judged lob but Edberg wrapped it up 7-5 when a Mancini forehand went long on the next point.

The match was delayed by 45

minutes because of rain in the morning and interrupted for almost an hour by a heavy shower at 4-3 to Edberg in the second set.

The covers were brought out again on centre court when a second shower fell soon after the match ended, holding up the clash between women's top seed Steffi Graf of West Germany and eighth seed Conchita Martinez of Spain.

Graf's match started after a delay of more than an hour but had to be adjourned 48 minutes later when another heavy shower came down.

The world number one, who dropped just nine games in her first four matches, was leading Martinez 6-0 3-2 at the break of play.

Seventh seed Arantxa Sanchez of Spain led Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia, the 11th seed, 5-2 on court one in the only other quarterfinal in progress.

Yesterday, world number one Ivan Lendl departed from the French Open, beaten in extraordinary fashion by a 17-year-old opponent so stricken by cramps he could barely stand at the tail end of a five-set marathon.

Michael Chang, the American 15th seed, whose service in the final set was reminiscent of a public park player on a Sunday afternoon, showed astonishing reserves of courage — and of

cunning — to down the big Czechoslovak 4-6 4-6 6-3 6-3 6-3.

"He deserves a lot of credit," Lendl said later. "When you get cramps. It's very painful. It's very difficult, if not almost impossible to play. He was hurting but he showed a lot of courage."

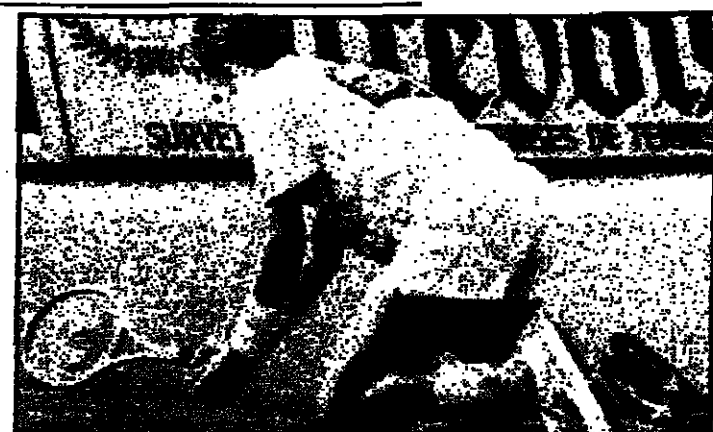
The four-hour 38-minute match, one of the most remarkable in a long history of the Roland Garros centre court, was the most bizarre of a trio of amazing comebacks.

Like Chang, Haitian Ronald Agener and Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union refused to give up at two sets down. Agener eventually defeated 18-year-old Spaniard Sergio Bruguera 2-6 3-6 6-3 6-1 6-2 and Chesnokov beat American Jim Courier, also 18, 3-6 6-3 6-6 6-2 7-5.

Only defending champion Mats Wilander of Sweden had things his own way. He beat American Lawson Duncan 7-5 6-3 6-2 to become the only player to reach the men's quarterfinals without dropping a set.

Chang's cramps were so bad he could barely run or serve in the last set. He squatted in agony to ease painful muscles on every point and he drank copious quantities of water to ward off dehydration.

At one point he received a warning for time-wasting.



Lendl lays on the ground after taking a spill in his match against Chang. (Reuters wirephoto)

McEnroe draws crowds to pre-Wimbledon event

BECKENHAM, England, June 6. (AP) — The prospect of seeing John McEnroe in action has brought a flood of requests for tickets to what is normally a low-key Wimbledon warm-up tournament in this London suburb.

So it was a bad few days for the Beckenham tournament organizers as the ruling body of men's tennis threatened to block the entry of their biggest drawing-card.

McEnroe had been due to play at the French Open until a back injury forced him to withdraw.

The Men's Tennis Council's rules say that a player cannot pull out of one event and then play at another running at the same time. The two-week French

championships began the week before Beckenham.

"We didn't consider that the situation would arise because McEnroe withdrew from Paris after he was injured," said Jenny Willis, the tournament director at Beckenham. "But the men's council said it didn't matter if a player had a justifiable reason for pulling out of an event — the rule stood."

"It had to go to appeal and it was tough and go what the decision would be, but luckily it went in our favour."

The organizers heard that the former Wimbledon champion had been given the all-clear to play only on Friday morning, and tickets were almost sold out.

Derby backers poised for record plunge

LONDON, June 6. (Reuters) — Backers are poised for the biggest ever plunge on a flat race in Britain ahead of tomorrow's Epsom Derby.

Graham Sharp, spokesman for one of London's top bookmakers, said today: "We expect to take about £7 million (\$11 million) which means about £40 million (\$62 million) industry-wide which would be a record."

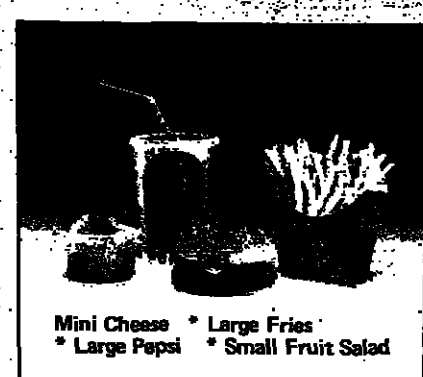
Cacophony has caught the imagination of many backers and may start favourite.

The colt has been steadily supported from 4-1 last week to 13-8 today and some are predicting he will replace long-time 6-4 favourite Nashua.

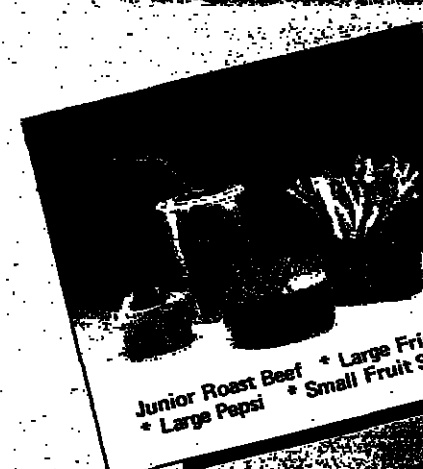
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Botham ruled out of first cricket Test

LONDON, June 6. (Reuters) — England all-rounder Ian Botham was "devastated and broken-hearted" today after a cheekbone fracture ruled him out of the first cricket Test against Australia starting at Headingley on Thursday.

"Ian is devastated and broken-hearted. He is a very sad man," Botham's manager Tom Byrom said.

"A lot of people said he would not get back to Test cricket again and yet he has, through sheer hard work and determination. He would have been a sensation at Headingley."

Botham will have to wait another week for a specialist's verdict on his prospects for the remainder of the six-match Ashes series.

He has just over a fortnight to regain fitness for the second Test, which starts at Lord's on June 22.

Botham had an operation yesterday after top-edging a ball from Glamorgan's Steve Barwick into his face while batting for his country Worcestershire.

Hampshire's Robin Smith has already been added to the England squad as cover for Mike Gatting, who cracked his right thumb on Sunday and rates his own chances of playing as 50-50.

Phil Newport, also in England's 12 for Headingley, at least gave the county champions something to cheer as he inspired a great comeback.

Resuming at 105 for four in reply to Worcestershire's 127, the visitors could add only 29 runs. Newport took four for 37. Then Tim Curtis put the champions in the driving seat, scoring an unbeaten 116.

Allan Lamb gave England a pre-Test tonic with 171 for Northamptonshire off Surrey.

Lamb, who hit the fastest hundred of the season for Northamptonshire against Leicestershire last month, hammered the second-quickest against the luckless Surrey attack.

The 57th century of his career took him just 96 balls and he belted a six and 28 fours as Northants boosted their title challenge by mercilessly piling up 425 for five against their injury-hit opponents. They then moved close to an innings victory as Surrey plummeted to 178 for seven.

Andy Afford took five for eight in 30 balls to torment Yorkshire's batsmen and complete a remarkable Nottinghamshire fight-back at Trent Bridge.

The left-arm spinner helped reduce the visitors to a paltry 130 for seven by the close, giving them a lead of only 139.

VERSATILE Derbyshire batsman Kim Barnett has been named as Botham's replacement. The 28-year-old, who won his only cap against Sri Lanka last year, normally opens the batting but is capable of filling any spot in the first six. Barnett did not appear in the recent one-day series against the Australians despite winning a place in England's 13-man squad.

Afford's heroics even outshone the performance of Paul Jarvis, who had earlier completed his best figures for three years — seven for 74 — as Nottingham were bowled out for 212.

Mark Benson and Neil Taylor both scored their first centuries of the season for Kent against Hampshire.

Benson hit 114 with 13 fours with Taylor unbeaten on 102 as they shared a fruitful 195-run partnership and propelled Kent to 270 for three from 84 overs, 57 ahead with seven wickets left.

Earlier, West Indian paceman Malcolm Marshall hit a 93-ball half-century which included a six over third-man.

Paul Smith defied a painful arm injury to compile a season's-best 66 to help Warwickshire to a first innings lead of 18 against Sussex at Edgbaston.

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